15.04 hrs.

Title: Combined discussion on the Budget (General) for the year 2002-2003, Demands for Grants on Account (General) for the year 2002-2003, Demands for Supplementary Grants (General) for the year 2001-2002, Demands for Excess Grants (General) for the year 1998-1999. (Not concluded)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up discussion on Item No.19 to 22 together.

Motions moved:

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 2003, in respect of heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demands No.1 to 28, 30, 31, 33 to 58, 60 to 92, 94 to 95, 97 to 102.
>
> That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, of certain further sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 2002, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof, against Demands No.1, 2, 4 to 6, 8 to 10, 12, 18, 21, 23 to 25, 27, 30, 32, 34, 37, 38, 40, 42 to 47, 50 to 53, 57, 59, 62, 64, 65, 71 to 76, 78, 80, 81, 83 to 88, 92, 93, 96 to 100.
>
> That the respective excess not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended on the 31st March, 1999, in respect of the following Demands entered in the Second column thereof Demand Nos.1, 5, 11, 13, 16 to 20, 25, 26, 28, 31, 34, 35, 37, 38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 52, 54, 56, 60, 63, 73, 78, 80, 81, 87, 95, 96, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 and 103."

Now, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (MAYILADUTURAI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to begin by congratulating the hon. Minister of Finance on having presented five Budgets in a row. In doing so, he has equalled the record of Dr. Manmohan Singh. Alas, the comparison ends there! It ends there because *The Economic Survey* that was presented just before the presentation of the Budget gives us the opportunity of comparing the hon. Finance Minister's four year economic performance with similar slots in the past − the last four years of Dr. Manmohan Singh, the last four years of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the last four years of Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

When one makes this comparison, one finds that growth over the last four years, from 1998 to 2002 has been of the order of 16 per cent. In the last four years of Dr. Manmohan Singh, the economy grew over four years by 23 per cent. In the last four years of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, that is, from 1986 to 1990 also, the economy grew at 23 per cent. In the last four years of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, from 1980 to 1984, the economy grew at 17 per cent, which is one percentage point more than under Shri Yashwant Sinha.

The average annual rate of growth in the last two years, that is, 2000 to 2002 has been of the order of 4.5 per cent per annum. This is lower than the annual average rate of growth of the Fifth Plan, the Sixth Plan, the Seventh Plan and the Eighth Plan, what used to be derogatorily called, 'the Hindu rate of growth'. I wonder whether the hon. Minister of Finance is attempting to prove his Hindutva credentials by taking us back to what is called the Hindu rate of growth!

When Dr. Manmohan Singh talked of the economy progressing on a trajectory of seven per cent to eight per cent per annum, we were actually averaging seven per cent in the years 1994 to 1997. When in speech after speech the hon. Minister of Finance repeats this *mantra* of seven per cent to eight per cent annual growth and the Prime Minister goes all the way to the United States to claim that we would be growing at nine per cent per annum while his actual performance is down to half of that at 4.5 per cent per annum one can only say, "You can fool some of the Americans some of the time but you cannot fool all of the Indians all of the time."

The Economic Survey tries to gloss over this colossal failure by saying that last year our growth was higher than most others. This, I submit, is a ridiculous cover up. My proof of it lies in a document I hold here, prepared by the longest serving Chief Economic Adviser of Shri Yashwant Sinha's Ministry, Shri Shankar Acharya. It is a very interesting monograph called *India's Macroeconomic Management in the 1990s*. It contains a table prepared by another Economic Adviser of Shri Yashwant Sinha. Therefore, the credentials are impeccable. This document, which was part of Arvind Virmani's *Chintan − occasional paper series* shows that over the last 20 years, from 1980 to 2000, ever since Shrimati Indira Gandhi's second coming, our growth rate has been the sixth highest in the world.

For 20 years, we have been among the six highest in the world. Shri Yashwant Sinha suddenly discovers it in the year 2001-2002 to explain his pathetic performance in the year under review.

Under the benediction of this Minister of Finance, we have sunk in the last two years to well below level number six. It would be much more honest on the part of the Government to accept that not since the Fourth Plan ended in 1974, going back 28 years, has the economy performed as badly as it has in the last two years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the sectoral performance is even worse. In the Eighties, according to this Economic Survey, foodgrains output rose at 36 per cent giving an annual average rate of growth of 3.6 per cent. In the Nineties, foodgrains output has risen by under half of that figure − just 18 per cent over the entire decade, averaging a mere 1.8 per cent per annum which, tragically, is lower even than our population growth, which is, as per the last diecennial census at 1.93 per cent per annum.

Is this the way to sustain our self-sufficiency in foodgrains in the 21st century? Actually, the picture is even worse than that. In the first quinquennium of reforms, 1991-96, foodgrains output rose at 3.5 per cent per annum, a whisker below the rise of the previous decade. But in the second quinquennium that is 1996 − 2001 − I can see that Shri Yashwant Sinha is going to point out that the year 2001 was a particularly a bad year; so let me be kind to him and let us take the next year where your performance is better − even if you take the foodgrains output at the 2001-2002 figures in preference to the exceptionally bad previous year, one finds that foodgrains growth from 1996 to 2002 averages below two per cent a year, which is barely adequate to keep up with population growth and certainly not enough to improve the desperately poor nutritional standards of the desperately poor people of this country.

And yet, the hon. Prime Minister visits Punjab and advises the farmers there to cut down on foodgrains production. If the buffer stocks of the Government are too high, it is not because we are producing too much food. It is because this Government has woefully overpriced foodgrains for consumers who are below the poverty line. We warned the Finance Minister of this in the year 2000 and we were given a complicated story by Shri Shanta Kumar, the Minister of Civil Supplies as to how they calculated that by raising the prices but by doubling the quantities available, the welfare of the poor would go up in comparison to smaller quantities at lower prices.

But what has happened? The buffer stock keeps growing because State Governments cannot lift these stocks and the reason why State Governments cannot lift these stocks is that the prices at which foodgrains and other commodities are being made available in ration shops is far too high for the poorer segments of our people. The fault lies entirely in the pricing system that this Government has adopted for foodgrains. Instead of correcting its pricing system , the hon. Prime Minister has, if you will permit the expression, the gall to go to the rice and wheat basket of India, Punjab and tell the farmers there that they are over-producing. Where does the hon. Prime Minister think Punjab lies − in Middle America? It lies in this extremely poor country. It is Punjab that has been saving this country plus, of course, the Cauvery delta. We produce the rice; Punjab produces rice and wheat. I must also tell my friends from the Telugu Desam and acknowledge that the Godavari and Krishna districts have made a humongous contribution. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (MIRYALGUDA): I am sitting by our side. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (MAYILADUTURAI): Therefore, I cannot understand how a responsible Prime Minister, whose record in regard to foodgrains production is as disastrous as it has been, can go to Punjab and tell the farmers that 'because I cannot pay your grain, please do not produce any more of it' instead of going to the poor of India and saying that 'because I priced your foodgrains too high, let me lower the foodgrains' prices'. Is this not madness?

The decade of the Nineties has also seen the ruin of our oilseed farmers, the poorest of our kisans.

Over the eighties, thanks to Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Technology Mission for Oilseeds, output of oilseeds doubled from 9.4 million tonnes in the first year of the decade to 18.6 million tonnes in the last year of the decade and edible oil imports fell from US $ 857 million in 1980-81 to a mere US $ 182 million in 1990-91. The ruin of the oilseeds farming community by this Government has slashed output to less than it was 20 years ago. Twenty years ago, our oilseeds output was higher than it is today. It has closed down most of the soyabean factories. It has wrecked the coconut oil industry of Kerala and the South, and pushed up imports of edible oil. I want the hon. members to please pay attention to this, it has pushed up imports of edible oil to nearly US $ 1,500 million. Shri Rajiv Gandhi brought down our edible oil import bill from US $ 857 million to US $ 182 million and this Government has taken it up once again to US $ 1,500 million. Instead of attending to the horrendous problems of our poorest *kisans*, the Prime Minster goes to Malaysia in search of some gentleman called Quattrochi and agrees to import from them - I bow towards you, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy - humongous quantities of palm oil. We are already importing edible oil worth US $ 1,500 million and this Prime Minister fetches up in Kuala Lumpur and says : "Oh, you poor poor Malaysians, you really are not well off enough. We will buy a few more tonnes of palm oil from you so that you can get better off." Is this economic policy? Is this not madness?

Let me now turn to the industry. In the group at Table 1.3 of the *Economic Survey* `manufacturing, construction and utility' growth in the last four years has been of the order of 13 per cent compared to 21 per cent in the last four years of both Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shri Rajiv Gandhi and 20 per cent in Shrimati Indira Gandhi's last four years. It is the worst performance in `manufacturing, construction and utilities' that we have had in the last two decades. But I am not as concerned about that as I am about the worst hit element of this group which is the decentralised cotton cloth sector, whereas in the last decade of socialism, the decade of the eighties, we saw decentralised cotton cloth output rising by 177 per cent, which gives an annual growth rate of 17.7 per cent, in the last four years, growth in this sector has collapsed to only 0.5 per cent over a period of four years. In four years, the decentralised cotton cloth sector has increased its output by only 0.5 per cent which means the annual average given to us by Shri Yashwant Sinha is just a fraction over 0.1 per cent per annum.

Ironically, one industrial sector of all which are listed over here in the Table called `Production of Selected Industries', has recorded remarkable growth and that is `synthetics'. Taking together, synthetic and mixed cloth, as against a minor rise of 52 per cent in the eighties, in the nineties, output is up by 128 per cent.

No wonder, this Government is placing such reliance upon Reliance. But is this still the land of Gandhi? Is this still the land of *Swadeshi*? Is this still the land of the worship of *daridra- narayan*? Is this still the land where we are dedicated to wiping every tear from every eye? If Nathuram Godse killed Gandhi's body, then this Government has wrecked the Mahatma's life mission -- *Khadi* is dead; handlooms have been finished. This is a Government of fat cats, this is not a Government of the poor.

Sir, the Finance Minister will immediately protest that it is his Government which has slashed poverty by the highest margin ever -- down to 26 per cent, according to the conclusions of the last quinquennial National Sample Survey. He said this in his Budget speech last year. It has been repeated in the *Economic Survey* this year. It is, therefore, incumbent on this House to give the lie to this entirely bogus claim. It is a claim based not on comparable data, but on changing the methodology of estimating poverty. In last year's *Economic Survey*, I have the extract here, para 10.15, page 194, it was said that " because of the changes in methodology of data collection, these two sets of estimates," that is the previous quinquennial survey and the latest quinquennial survey, "may not be strictly comparable to the earlier estimates of poverty;" and box 10.1 on the same page explained how the methodology had been changed, adding, "Such methodological innovations can affect the estimates of consumption." But suddenly, this year's Survey, at para 10.4, page 237, abandons last year's rectitude and asserts quite baldly and utterly wrongly that "comparable estimates of poverty are available at the national and State level from 1973-74 to 1999-2000". This is simply untrue. It then sets out in Table 10.4 a claim that there has been a 10 per cent fall in poverty between 1993-94 and 1999-2000. The question I pose through you, Sir, to this House is, "How can poverty be falling when all indices of growth are falling?" Surely, a fall in poverty is the result of a growth in prosperity and, yet, all the evidence we have before us, which has not been invented by the Opposition but been presented to us officially by the Government of India, indicates that apart from that one sector I mentioned, there is a serious deterioration in the rates of growth of all manufacturing, all construction, all utilities, all financial and business services, all agriculture, all forestry, all mining, all quarrying and, yet, this Government claims that never before in the history of India has poverty fallen as fast as under them.

Sir, GDP growth rates are down, agricultural output rates have sharply declined, and manufacturing and construction are in the doldrums. The decentralised cloth sector, which in my State of Tamil Nadu, employees one-third of the workforce -- two crores out of six crores of the population is stagnating. Employment growth rates are the lowest in decades. Export growth rates are down; savings and investment rates are down, and foreign direct investment (FDI) is stagnant.

The share of all the three − rural development, anti-poverty programmes and also social sector spending -- has hit the rock bottom at just one per cent of GDP. I invite the attention of the Finance Minister to Column-E of Table 10.2 at page 236 of his Survey.

Sir, then from where does this momentum come for the claimed decline in the poverty ratios? I think the answer lies in drawing the Minister of Finance's attention to Unstarred Question Number 3533 which I had put to the Minister of Statistics almost exactly a year ago, on the 21st of March, 2001. The hon. Shri Arun Shourie's reply confirmed what I had suspected that the methodology for the latest survey cannot be applied retrospectively to the previous survey nor can the methodology of the previous survey be applied to this survey. Shri Shourie -- I quote his golden words -- added: " Planning Commission has not made any estimate of percentage of variation attributable to the change in data collection methodology." This was Shri Arun Shourie's reply to me. My question is, why not? Why can the Planning Commission not make such an estimate and if it cannot, then how can you compare apples with oranges?

Sir, we have two sets of non-comparable data, as *The Economic Survey* of last year admitted. Now the nuances are being chucked away to claim, on the basis of non-comparable data, that even if everything is collapsing,

poverty is on the decline. This is the kind of statistical jugglery which has come in for the severest criticism from independent observers.

Sir, I wonder if the Finance Minister has seen an article in *The Economic and Political Weekly* of 26th of May, 2001 by Shri A.Vaidyanathan, the last surviving member of the great *Pitambar Pant's* Perspective Planning Division in the old Planning Commission. Shri Vaidyanathan says: "These methodological changes brought in by Shri Shourie in sampling methods vitiate the estimates obtained from the latest survey and makes it difficult to compare them with those of earlier surveys." Shri Kunal Sen and Mr. Richard Palmer-Jones in *The Economic and Political* weekly of the 20th January, 2001 have remarked and I quote this with shame in my heart: "The statistics of poverty in India are in disarray."

Sir, I have with me an extract from the World Development Report of 2000-2001 on the subject, `Attacking poverty'. This is what they have to say about Shri Arun Shourie's poverty statistics: "For India there is an on-going debate on the accuracy of statistics. It provides a telling example of how difficult it is to track poverty over time even within countries".

Sir, then I have the World Bank Report of January, 2000 on the subject `India's policies to reduce poverty'. It is a report exclusively about poverty reduction in India. This is what they say with a bluntness which makes me ashamed as an Indian. It says: "With discrepancies such as these the only conclusion that can be made confidently is that India's statistical architecture, once a model for other developing countries, needs more consistency checks." Thus, faced with the ugly fact that poverty was not declining, the master manipulator of this Government, the former Minister of Statistics fudged the figures. I accuse your former Minister of Statistics of not only having fudged the figures but having unauthorisedly leaked his fudged conclusions to the newspaper of which he used to be the Editor and is now competing with me as a columnist, it would appear from his two part article a couple of days ago.

He goes and leaks this information long before it has been evaluated or authorised by the Planning Commission so as to claim that he has done something remarkable. वाह रे तीसमारखां ! I demand to know from the Finance Minister why the recommendation of the Lakdawala Committee for an annual State of Poverty Report, based on a complex of parameters set out by Shri Lakdawala, is not being implemented. Will, he assure us that starting from this year Parliament will be given such a report?

Growth requires a sensible economic policy. But growth requires much more than policy alone! Growth requires sound administration; growth requires good governance. Yashwant Sinha the IAS Officer, understood this. अब पता नहीं क्या हो गया है? The ATR that he has submitted on the implementation of Budget announcements repeatedly reveals his failure to carry his Government with him. So much of the desperately required action on his own appraisal is limited to meetings held, Committees formed, cups of tea drunk. So little shows accomplishment on the ground.

Take for instance, this Government's single-most important programme for rural development the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, for which this Parliament has already sanctioned Rs.5,000 crore over the last two years, and is being asked through this Budget to sanction another Rs.2,500 crore, making it Rs.7,500 crore in all. The single-most heavily financed rural development programme in the history of independent India! But how is it being implemented? The whole of the first year, 2000-01, was wasted in drafting guidelines. They did just that and nothing else, just drafted guidelines. And the guidelines are in such a mess that it is confusion worse confounded.

Most of the second year has been spent getting out the sanctions for the first year's allocations. Out of thousands of rupees sanctioned, Rs.5,000 crore sanctioned, actual expenditure runs to a few hundred crore rupees. The bulk of the money molders in bank accounts, or is surreptitiously being diverted to ways and means expenditure. If the Finance Minister has any *lajja,* any sense of shame, I challenge him to reveal in his reply what has been the actual expenditure in the years 2000 to 2002 on the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in comparison to the Rs.5,000 crore he appropriated from us. I also ask him to let us know how many decades it will take to establish minimal rural connectivity which is the key to rural development.

This Government boasts of attaining its rural connectivity objectives within the Tenth Plan period. But its own estimates − I am not talking of my estimates but the estimates that have been given to us in the Standing Committee of Urban and Rural Development − show that a minimum of Rs.60,000 crore is going to be required for this purpose. It will, therefore, take some 25 years to reach this target at the present levels of appropriation. Yet, nothing has been done by the hon. Finance Minister to make rural connectivity the focal point of World Bank, ADB and other international funding in India. I realise that the Minister of Finance is much too senior a Minister to take time off from the convivial lunches he has have with Chambers of Commerce, to actually read the report submitted to this Parliament by his Shiv Sena colleague, Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development.

Therefore, the hon. Finance Minister probably does not know that physical achievement in rural development is

abysmal. When this House debated the Rural Development Ministry's Demands for Grants last year, we brought out how every programme of rural development of the Government − be it rural employment, self-help groups, *gram samriddhi yojanas, awas yojanas,* sanitation, wastelands development, watershed development, drinking water − is running far, far behind the very modest physical targets being set by Shri Yashwant Sinha's own Government.

A whole year had passed since we had that discussion and our Standing Committee has just now received - last month - the Government's Action Taken Reports. And our Committee's indictment of these hopelessly irresponsible Action Taken Reports has been presented to this Parliament. But I gravely doubt that anyone has even bothered to bring Shri Anant Gangaram Geete's reports to the attention of the hon. Finance Minister.

As far as the Finance Minister is concerned, he certainly said nothing in his Budget speech to indicate any remorse at the yawning gap between promise and performance for the poor of this nation, the hiatus between Government's pious announcements and the paucity of its achievements.

Poor governance is reflected also in this Government's treatment of the pharmaceutical industry, one segment of which is endangered by the WTO's TRIP Agreement, and another segment of which stands poised to take on the world.

Sir, I have with me a Press Release of the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance. What do they say? They refer to the pharmaceutical policy announced by the Government of India which says that it is going to strengthen research and development capabilities.

I quote from the Press release:

> "Just to initiate action, the Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals has taken two years."

It goes on to cry:

> "While the policy states appropriate fiscal incentives would be provided, it is silent as to when, how and who will frame these policies and procedures for the grant of fiscal incentives."

There is nothing in the Budget which indicates that the Finance Minister is alive to the immense potential of one segment of this industry and the disaster that faces another segment of the same industry.

Moreover, as the Member of Parliament for Mayiladuturai and Kumbakonam, among our country's top centres of the silk handlooms industry, I must also draw Government's attention to the collapse of silk handlooms, as I have already drawn attention to the disaster being visited on Khadi and Cotton Handlooms. It is a sign of the heartlessness of this Finance Minister and the Government's distance from Gandhian values, that in the middle of this life and death crisis for the most employment-intensive sector of Indian industry, this Budget proposes to impose an excise duty of eight per cent on hank yarn. And then it complicates it by a subsidy scheme which is clearly open to corruption, oppression and misuse. You have done away with precisely this kind of a system for all your rich friends and you are re-introducing it here for the poorest of the people - crores of them - who are using hank yarn. How are they going to pay the excise duty on the one hand and collecting it by subsidies on the price at which they pay?

You know that this is the licence-permit-quota *raj,* which you claim to be dismantling. You dismantle it for the rich and re-mantle it for the poor. What kind of economic policy is this?

Sir, the worst indictment of this Government is Table 1.3 of the Economic Survey. It shows that while in agriculture and forestry, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, construction and utilities, as also in finance and business services and real estate growth rates are lagging far, far behind the Manmohan period, far, far behind the Rajiv period and well behind Indira ji's second coming, the one area in which this is boom-time is the Government's expenditure on itself. And this from a Government that even appointed a Minister to downsize the bureaucracy and expanded the bureaucracy to do so! This is the Groucho Marx in Government.

Bankrupt of ideas, this Government knows only how to sell for a song the assets of this nation which it did nothing to create. When the need of the hour is invest, invest, invest, this Government has reduced Economic Policy to disinvest, disinvest and disinvest. The tragedy is that no one wants to buy anything even for a song from this utterly discredited Government. That is why disinvestment bids for even the best of our public sector is limited to a few favoured capitalists the ones most represented on the Prime Minister's cosy little cartel, his Advisory Council of Trade and Industry, all full of Birlas, Tatas and Ambanis but with no trade unionist, no representative of

unorganised labour, no *Sarpanch,* no *Pradhan,* no *Zila Parishad Adhyaksha,* not even one small-scale industrialist.

Such crony capitalism, such private privatisation is the most dangerous threat to democracy in this country. You are handing over the levers of the economy to a tiny coterie of fat cat friends in the name of disinvestment. The Minister for Disinvestment studied economics with me at University. Together, in the same class and from the same teachers we learnt how disinvestment in Japan to a few Samurai families led, from 1896 onwards, to the creation of the Zaibatsu who took imperial Japan over the next half-century to the disaster of the Second World War.

I warn this Government that we in the Congress will not tolerate this surrender of power to the obscenely rich. We stand for Power to the *Panchayats.* That is the core of our economic policy.

SHRI VAIKO (SIVAKASI): Hon. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset I wish to extend my hearty congratulations to the hon. Finance Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha for having set a record, for this commendable presentation of Budget consecutively for the fifth time.

(x2/1545/rc/mkg)

He is the first non-Congress Finance Minister who has done that. Sir, he deserves all kudos and bouquet for having overcome the hurdles one after another in these four years. I am happy to participate in this debate because just as a coincidence, today happens to be the 19th March when our hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee assumed the reigns of power at the Centre. Four years have passed and I could understand the agony and anguish of my friends particularly of my esteemed friend hon. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. But I expected, at least, one word of appreciation in his speech for, at least, some scheme announced in the Budget. But all the rancour, hatred, stupendous, and humongous venom in their heart towards this Government was projected here. Of course, he made a statement that there could not be a comparison between Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shri Yashwant Sinha. I totally concur with him. There cannot be a comparison because Shri Yashwant Sinha had to face the trying and challenging circumstances and Dr. Manmohan Singh did not have to face such challenges.

When he assumed the portfolio of the Finance Minister in 1998 in the month of March, the economic situation looked like a quagmire with the East Asian economic crisis. The same year sanctions were imposed by the United States of America and the Western powers due to the factor of Pokharan nuclear explosion. But Shri Yashwant Sinha managed and was able to navigate the economic ship of India through the troubled waters of gale.

Sir, with perspective vision our Finance Minister, in his last Budget launched second generation reforms which were meticulously projected in his last year's Budget for 2001-02. Of course, nobody could deny the fact that the first year of the new millennium that is the third millennium not only witnessed a disastrous attack on the twine towers of the World Trade Centre, New York but also witnessed the onslaught of global recession the factor that nobody could deny. So, when he started as the Finance Minister he had to face East Asian economic crisis and today the factor that the world economic growth has been estimated to slow down by 2.4 per cent. Could anybody deny this fact? Now the whole world has become a global village and whatever happens in any remote corner of the globe in the economic front has its affects and nobody could play an isolated role. So, the domestic and economic background has been hostile and the external economic background has also been hostile.

I wish to congratulate our Finance Minister for taking bold initiative and for launching this Budget as a development oriented and progressive Budget. It is undoubtedly a challenging task. It is not an easy task. But, the thrust is very clear. The message is very clear. He has presented this Budget for consolidating the second generation reforms. He has presented this Budget for deepening and widening the second generation reforms. He has presented this Budget to further promote partnership with the States. The thrust in the reforms process in this Budget has been from generation to transmission and distribution.

Of course, I agree with him. The Budget assumed the economic growth to be 5.4 per cent; but the fiscal deficit has gone up to 5.3 per cent for the year 2001-02 from the projected budgetary level of 4.7 per cent. It is not an encouraging factor. But, one thing has to be realised that the inflation rate has fallen to a low of 1.1 per cent which could provide the cushion and strength to achieve the growth he has projected. For the first time in these four years the inflation rate has come down to 1.1 per cent.

Another promising feature is that the chest of foreign exchange reserve has crossed US $ 50 billion. This Budget is an attempt to forge a private-public partnership in infrastructure development. I expected that Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, who comes from the Cauvery delta, would at least have the courtesy to appreciate the thrust given to the agro sector in this Budget. He should have risen above partisan politics. He could criticise. We have not reached the expected economic growth. We have not solved the unemployment problem; the price hike is affecting the poor and the have-nots. All these are fine. But, at the same time, a bold and very promising initiative has been taken by the Government in the agro sector. The country has witnessed the Green Revolution and the White Revolution. Now, this Budget is projecting for a third revolution of agricultural diversification and food processing. My friend,

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has given all the tributes to the farmers.

Days were there when the people of India were looking towards the sea shores and ports for the foodgrains under PL 480 programme. Who has led this country not only to self-sufficiency but also to a level where we could export foodgrains? It is the farmer who is braving the scorpions and snakes from dawn to dusk with the sweat of his brow and toiling of day and night. With all this he has to throw his hands in despair because he is frustrated. He is not able to recover himself from the quagmire of debt. Therefore, this Government, taking into consideration the problems the farmers are facing in this country, has taken some innovative steps for agricultural diversification and food processing. It requires policy changes.

Removal of the remaining regulatory and procedural rigidity which still exist and improved rural infrastructure are essential for this new revolution.

Coming to freedom to the farmer, *kisan ki azadi,* it is the overreaching of the policy which was projected in the Budget by the hon. Finance Minister. The ills and problems of the agriculturists are that the producer could not decide the price of the produce. He is at the mercy of the middlemen. K*isan ki azadi* means he should be able to sell his produce. For this purpose, this programme has been announced. Therefore restrictive orders inhibiting storage, selling and movement of food and agricultural products look forward to countrywide integrated market for agricultural products. Even today, in the Cauvery Delta, farmers are agitating because they could not sell their paddy. Procurement centres have been closed. Unless farmers are able to get the rehabilitation price, he will not be able to sell his produce at his will and pleasure. For this purpose, the State should come forward with the amendment of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Act. It is the need of the hour to enable the farmers to sell directly to potential processors, help them to receive better prices and to access potential new markets. In addition, the remaining State control orders which are acting as barriers to inter-State trade need to be lifted.

In the year 2000-01, our Finance Minister made an announcement of credit link subsidy scheme for construction of cold storages. Sanction has already been made for the creation of 21 lakh tonnes capacity of cold storages which is much higher than the target of 12 lakh tonnes. The target was 12 lakh tonnes but the performance is now 21 lakh tonnes.

Agricultural sector, through institutional channel, is expected to reach the targeted level of Rs.64,000 crore this year. It is expected to increase to Rs.75,000 crore in 2002-03. Kisan credit cards introduced in 1998-99 have been a resounding success and helped our farmers considerably in their access to agricultural credit.

There is a proposal in the Budget to set up a new corporation for agricultural insurance to be promoted by the existing public sector general insurance companies. It is a welcome measure. Our Finance Minister also proposed to increase the allocation in the accelerated irrigation benefit programme from Rs.2000 crore during the current year to Rs.2800 crore in 2002-03. In order to facilitate accelerated diversification and modernisation of agriculture, the allocation for agricultural research has been enhanced to Rs.775 crore from Rs.684 crore in the current year for the promotion of agricultural exports. Agro export zones will be promoted in different States and 15 such zones have already been approved. Of course, the prices of urea and fertilisers have gone up. I would request the Government to reconsider the decision because it is affecting the farmers. At the same time, a total amount of Rs.12300 crore has been provided as a reform linked assistance to States for a number of sectors like APDRP, AIBP, URI and RITM.

16.00 hrs.

Sir, the Finance Minister has made a commendable announcement to commemorate the birth centenary of *Lok Nayak* Jayprakash Narayan. He has launched a programme to provide employment to the unemployed in the rural sector. This Scheme is called *Jayprakash Rozgar Yojana.* It is very appropriate for our Finance Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha, to launch this project in the name of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan because he represented Hazaribagh constituency. Shri Yashwant Sinha also represents Hazaribagh constituency. When Mahatma Gandhi gave the call for Quit India Movement in 1942, it was from the Hazaribagh prison. He scaled the highest wall of the prison along with Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and Shri Jayaprakash Narayan. Those were the glorious days of the history of freedom struggle of India. He gave a call for total revolution to fight corruption and to create an awakening in the minds of youths of this country. It is a fitting tribute to the memory of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan.

I now come to health care. Here comes the human factor, that is the social factor. For this our hon. Finance Minister has announced that the public sector insurance companies have designed a scheme called *Jan Raksha* for ensuring good health to the rural population. Under this innovative scheme, by paying Re. 1 per day as insurance premium, a person will be entitled to indoor treatment to the tune of Rs. 30,000; and the eligibility for Out Patient treatment will be up to Rs. 2,000 per year. The Finance Minister, keeping his promise to reach Asian level by 2004, has reduced the peak customs duty. He has reduced excise duty on tea by 50 per cent, that is to Re. 1 per kg. He has exempted specified anti-AIDS and cancer drugs from excise duty and customs duty.

The Government has taken another step towards capital account convertibility by bringing the deposit scheme of Non-Resident Indians under full convertibility. The plan allocation to the Department of Elementary Education for literacy is being enhanced from Rs. 4,000 crore this year to Rs. 4,900 crore for the year 2002-2003. He has also increased the plan allocation for Department of Women and Child Development by 33 per cent, that is to Rs. 2,200 crore. In order to encourage the entry of large number of women in scientific professions, the Government intends to institute 100 scholarships a year to be provided to the Department of Science and Technology to women scientists and technologists.

In the field of health care, the National Institute of Siddha at Chennai is being provided Rs. 4 crore for commencing its activities. I commend this step. A National Ayurvedic Hospital will be set up at Delhi with private sector participation. Hon. Finance Minister has increased the budgetary support for Indian System of Medicines by 25 per cent, that is Rs. 150 crore. For the welfare and uplift of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the allocation for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been increased from Rs. 792 crore to Rs. 879 crore. In order to meet the requirements of various schemes, he has increased the plan allocation for tribal welfare by 21 per cent, that is to Rs. 290 crore for the year 2002-2003.

Another innovative step taken by our Finance Minister, which deserves appreciation from all quarters, is the dismantling of the Administered Price Mechanism for petroleum products. It is really an innovative step. The price of petroleum products will now become market-determined. A Petroleum Regulatory Board will be set up to oversee the sector. As a result of the dismantling of the APM, the price of diesel will come down by about fifty paise per litre and of petrol, by around rupee one per litre. Whenever there is a price hike, whenever there is an increase, naturally there is a hue and cry. But when the prices are brought down, particularly from the Opposition quarters, there is no word of appreciation. Of course, when the LPG price shot up by Rs.40 per cylinder, our Finance Minister made a statement that he could not convince even his wife. But now I am happy to say that it has been brought down by Rs.20 per cylinder, which is a reduction of 50 per cent. The actual increase at that time was Rs.40. It has been brought down by Rs.20, which is a 50 per cent reduction ...(*Interruptions*) The increase has been brought down by 50 per cent....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : If the Government can bring the price down to middle-class consumers in regard to gas, why does not it not bring down the price of kerosene for the poor consumers?...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO (SIVAKASI): I agree with you. I wanted to just dwell on that point. I agree with you. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to do this. The middle-class and urban middle-class people are powerful. They are happy now. ...(*Interruptions*) At least, they are happy. But this request also should be considered by the Government. Kerosene is used by the poor people, the have-nots. They feel that they do not have a lobby. Therefore, I would request the Government to consider the demand to reduce the price of kerosene.

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar narrated the scenario of textiles, handloom and hank yarn. There is a demand to restore the *status quo ante* regarding hank yarn. But, at the same time, I would like to tell my friends that our Finance Minister burnt midnight oil for days and nights. He consulted the experts to protect the textile industry which is facing a threat right from our neighbour China, to our neighbouring countries. The entire textile industry is facing a crisis. Without any bias, he has applied his mind to protect the textile industry. I also represented the problems of the people who depend upon the hank yarn. But our Finance Minister, with a perspective outlook to protect the textile industry, which would be facing a major crisis in the future, has taken steps. The threat is from China, from our neighbour in every field. We are not able to contain the aggression in 1962. We were not able to thwart the aggressor in 1962. We were not able to teach a lesson to the aggressor in 1962. But now, I hope, our Finance Minister is making all his best efforts to contain the Chinese aggression in this field. Therefore, he has introduced a very important amendment in the Customs Tariff Act in the Union Budget. The proposed amendment seeks to insert a new Section in the said Act, Section 8C which reads as follows:

> "â€¦if the Central Government, after conducting such enquiry as deems fit, is satisfied with any article imported into India, from the People's Republic of China, in such increased quantities and under such conditions so as to cause or threatening to cause market disruption to domestic industry, then, it may, by notification in the Official Gazette, impose a safeguard duty on that article: "

So, on inquiry if the Commissioner is satisfied that the grievance is justified, he may order a levy of safeguard duty on the said Chinese commodity at a specified percentage of value to neutralise the damage to the Indian industry.

Sir, our Finance Minister in his Budget speech mentioned about the broad strategy to enhance public and private investment in infrastructure. While mentioning about the roads, he said that he was glad to inform the House that the Prime Minister's National Highway Development Programme, launched three years ago, is progressing well. It

now promises to achieve a new scenario in the road sector. A substantial portion of the Golden Quadrilateral would be completed by December, 2003, a year ahead of schedule, and the North, South, East and West corridors have a length of 7,300 kms., of which 716 have already been four-laned.

In this area, I would request the hon. Minister to apply his mind to a very important problem. If you want to strengthen the infrastructure for the future economic prosperity, he has to implement a major project, the *Sethusamudram* canal project. We do not have a navigated route in our territorial water, that is, peninsula. This is a dream project for more than 140 years today. There were many Committee Reports, right from 1860. The First Report was the report of the Commander Taylor. There have been 12 reports subsequently. In 1956, a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. Ramasamy Mudaliar to examine the *Sethusamudram* canal project. A high-level team from Tuticorin met the then Prime Minister, the late and lamented Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and impressed upon him the importance of the *Sethusamudram* canal project, and also the importance of Tuticorin harbour. Pandit Nehru immediately sanctioned the modernisation of Tuticorin port. He promised to include the *Sethusamudram* canal project in the Second Plan. What happened on 12th December, 1963 was that the *Sethusamudram* canal project was included in the list of projects to be executed. But, Sir, it was thrown into the dustbin. I do not want to criticize the background; I do not want to go into the background as to what happened, as to who opposed and as to how it was dumped.

Sir, when *Arignar Anna,* the messiah of Tamils, became the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in 1967, his first demand was to implement the *Sethusamudram* canal project. For that, he gave a call through the State to observe a Day of Awakening. A Day of Awakening was observed in my State when *Anna* became the Chief Minister. His first demand was to implement the *Sethusamudram* canal project, not only for the economic prosperity of my State, Tamil Nadu but also for the entire nation. Many years have passed since. ...(*Interruptions*) It seems that they are not interested in *Sethusamudram* canal project. They may be interested in some project in Bihar or Uttar Pradesh.

(d3/1615/ksp/am)

This is a project in which not only the entire State of Tamil Nadu is interested, but even the Europeans are also making a study on this project. If this project is implemented, the Sethu Samudram canal will become more important than Suez and Panama canals and ships from all over the world will be passing through this canal. They need not go to Colombo. If this project is implemented, the canal will reduce the distance between the ports in the Eastern and Western coasts of the country by 350 nautical miles.

Sir, at present, the distance between Tuticorin and Chennai is 769 nautical miles. If the project is implemented, then the distance will be 335 nautical miles, which is 434 nautical miles less. The distance between Tuticorin and Visakapatnam at present is 1,028 nautical miles. If the Sethu Samudram canal project is implemented, the distance will be 652 nautical miles which is 376 nautical miles less. The distance between Tuticorin and Kolkata at present is 1,371 nautical miles. After the completion of this project, the distance will be 1,031 nautical miles, which is 340 nautical miles less. The distance between Kanyakumari and Chennai at present is 755 nautical miles and after the completion of this project, the distance will be 402 nautical miles, which is 353 nautical miles less. The distance between Kanyakumari and Visakapatnam at present is 1,014 nautical miles and if the project is implemented, it will be reduced to 709 nautical miles. The distance between Kanyakumari and Kolkata at present is 1,357 nautical miles and if this project is implemented, it will be reduced to 1,098 nautical miles. The distance will be reduced, the fuel cost will be less and from security point of view, our ships will be able to go through our navigated canal.

Sir, in the year 1999, the Finance Minister, for the first time, announced in his Budget speech that an amount of Rs. 4.20 crore had been allocated for preparing a new feasibility report to be submitted in two years, to update the available data and to make a study. Now, the people are concerned as to whether this Government will implement the project or not. But I heaved a sigh of relief when I met the hon. Prime Minister recently in this regard. The Prime Minister assured me that the Government is committed to the assurance for implementing the Sethu Samudram Canal Project and he asked me to contact the Finance Minister immediately. When I met the Finance Minister, he said that the Government is very much committed to implement this project. Our Shipping Minister has asked the Committee to submit its report within eight months. In addition to that, the Shipping Minister, in an interview to the magazine *Swagat* of March, 2002, said:

> "The creative initiative gets killed if work is delayed. For instance, the Sethu Samudram Ship Canal Project appears on the file since 1826. The matter assumed importance in 1998 after the Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, during his visit to Tamil Nadu, announced that the project was being taken up by the Centre."

Sir, I would like to submit with all humility that it was in our MDMK rally on 15th September, 1998 to celebrate the

birth anniversary of our leader, late lamented Arignar Anna and the greatest champion of social justice Thanthai Periyar, where millions gathered in the sands of Marina, the hon. Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee announced that the Central Government would implement this project. He is the first Prime Minister of India to have made this announcement and he has again assured that the commitment would be definitely fulfilled. Since it is a dream project not only for the Tamils but also for the whole of India, I hope and expect that the name of the Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will go into the annals of history for centuries and centuries.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): There was an announcement. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO : The Congress Party was in power for 45 years. They did not implement it. No Prime Minister from the Congress Party was able to tell us a word about the Sethu Samudram project. No Minister of Finance during the Congress regime ever uttered a word about this project. ...(*Interruptions*)

It is our Minister of Finance, Shri Yashwant Sinha, for the first time. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may know that Thoothukudi is one of the segments of my constituency. I also appeal to the Government that this project may be executed. It is a long-pending project.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The sentiments in the House be conveyed to the Government. Instead of saying it directly, I appeal to the Government to consider and execute it as early as possible. It is an important project. All the people in the South are expecting this project to be completed and executed early.

Last year, we had given an amendment to the President's Address. We had given an amendment to the Budget. But unfortunately, it was pressed for voting.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (SALEM): Sir, I have a point for clarification.

SHRI VAIKO : I am not yielding to anybody.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Selvaganpathi, let him finish his speech.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Sir, let me speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO : When your turn comes, you can speak. I am not yielding to anybody.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him finish.

SHRI VAIKO : The whole world knows that our Prime Minister gave an assurance in our rally. He made that commitment. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : The Prime Minister made the commitment. But the Minister of Environment and Forests is standing in the way. That is the problem.

SHRI VAIKO : No, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nobody can stand in the way now. Now, I have appealed from the Chair to the Government because it is a part of my constituency, Thoothukudi.

SHRI VAIKO : Shri Selvaganpathi, when the Prime Minister says something, nobody could stand in the way. He has said it very clearly. ...(*Interruptions*) The Prime Minister is not only interested in it, but he is also very particular in fulfilling the promise.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : The Prime Minister is interested. But the Minister of Environment is standing in the way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am very happy that all the Members are pressing for this project. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, we want to know the opinion of the Minister of Environment and Forests.

We do not like to confuse the House. The Prime Minister, after consulting the Minister of Environment and Forests, must say something so that the project is completed.

SHRI VAIKO : Shri Dasmunsi, you have no moral right to speak about this project.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. When Shri Vaiko is saying that the Prime Minster is going to execute it, the Minister of Environment and Forests cannot interfere in it. He would not have a say. The Prime Minister is Head of the Government.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAIKO : They were running the Government for half a century.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (RAMANATHAPURAM): Sir, he may yield for a moment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have got a chance to speak.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : I will speak at that time also. But I thought that this is the most opportune time for me. The Sethu Samudram project comes within my constituency. That is why I am more competent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, Thoothukudi is in my constituency. It originates there.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : We are the two Members who are more interested in it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY : In that way, I am extremely thankful to Shri Vaiko also for having interested to see that the project is on. As rightly said by our beloved Member, Shri Selvaganpathi, we have got a great doubt about that project in the sense that when the Prime Minister of our country came to Chennai, he gave a categorial commitment in the presence of a huge crowd and also Shri Vaiko. I saw that in the newspapers. I had also seen that on TV. Subsequent to that, the Minister of Defence came to Rameshwaram. He also endorsed and corroborated the views of the Prime Minister.

So, these two Ministers have categorically committed that the project is being taken up definitely. In that situation, we are surprised to see that this has been sent for a feasibility study. As we are aware, several feasibility studies have already been made. Several experts have given their views. On some pretext or the other, it has been sent on for a feasibility study. Rightly the Finance Minister is now so kind enough to set apart around Rs. 4 crore and odd for the study. What we are able to see now is that over a period of one year, nothing has taken place since the commitment. I do not like to make any controversy. I am basically interested in this project. Sir, you are interested in this project. The entire House is interested in this project. The entire Tamil Nadu is so keen on this project. We are very much keen on this project. We do not like to spoil that atmosphere. Let Shri Vaiko, with all his good offices, with all his influence and goodwill with this Govt., see that the project is coming up soon. What I want to know is this. Kindly give a time-frame for this and tell us how long it will take. Let them come with a time-frame....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Finance Minister, please convey the feelings of the Members to the Prime Minister and see that the project is executed in the near future.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, have you given a ruling? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I am asking him to convey the feelings of the Members to the Prime Minister.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, when the Suez Canal was opened for the first time, Muslims and Christians celebrated together. Likewise, when this project is implemented, not only the whole of Tamil Nadu but also the whole of India will cherish it and the name of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and his Government will go down in the annals of the history of Tamil Nadu; posterity will never forget, and we will have the gratitude to this Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Now, I wish and commend our Finance Minister for presenting an innovative Budget, a development-oriented Budget and a progressive Budget meeting the challenges. I wish him success to defeat all the adversaries in meeting the challenges, and he will come up in flying colours.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, it is not the stage for me to intervene in this debate. The Sethu Samudram project is a project of national importance. Recognising the importance of this project, a commitment has been made by the Prime Minister, as has been pointed out in this House. A commitment has been made by the *Raksha Mantri,* as has been pointed out in this House. And a definite commitment was made on behalf of the Government by me when I talked about it in the Budget for 1999 and made a provision of Rs. 4 crore.

The hon. Member is quite right in saying that the project has been talked about for over a century and at various points of time, project reports and feasibility reports have been prepared. Now, if we want to move seriously ahead with this project, these reports will have to be updated. And for this reason, NEERI has been appointed so that quickly they can give us a report and we could start the implementation of this project as quickly as possible. This is the commitment of the Government and nobody is resiling from that commitment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Finance Minister.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I extend my gratitude from the core of my heart to our hon. Finance Minister for once again reiterating the commitment given by the Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Finance Minister and the Defence Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I thank the Finance Minister for his re-assurance.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister on the 28th of February. It seems that the Finance Minister has lost himself in a jungle of reforms.

He is clueless, directionless and totally confused. He is indulging in absurd exercises unrelated to the demands of the situation. If you look at the Economic Survey presented by this Government, the Economic Survey presents a very bleak picture about the economic performance of this Government.

16.30 hrs. (Shri Shriniwas Patil *in the Chair)*

There is unprecedented industrial slow down which is admitted in the Economic Survey. The corporate investment declined from 1998-99 to the tune of 32.3 per cent. New projects declined by 54 per cent. Expansion and modernisation dropped by 40 per cent. Such is the industrial slow down. In a situation like this, as can be well imagined, there is rampant joblessness. There is unemployment. There are educated unemployed people; rural unemployed people; urban unemployed people; and no less than 50 lakhs of people have lost their jobs according to a very conservative estimate during the last one year.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (AURANGABAD, BIHAR): That is much more than this figure.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Yes, that is true. That is from the Government side. There are so many others like BIFR. Now, as you know, unemployment among the frustrated youths is a fertile ground of terrorism. I am not going into the details of whatever studies that have been made about in certain parts of the country and in certain parts of other countries. In such a situation, the Government has miserably failed to address the burning problems facing this nation--be it industrial slow down, be it unemployment, be it stagnation in agriculture, be it severe demand recession. Even in the rural areas, there is declining productivity and there is declining profitability.

Believing these people, some people, as you have seen in Andhra Pradesh, in a recent study, have switched over from the cereal production to the cash crops like cotton and other things. They have invested heavily borrowing from private lenders because the commercial banks, the nationalised sector private banks are not fulfilling even the minimum quota of 18 per cent that they were supposed to fulfil. Ultimately what happened? Not only in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat but also even in the State of Green Revolution, that is, Punjab, suicide cases have been noticed. In such a situation, the Government says: "Our focus is on agriculture." And they have raised Rs.11,000 crore in agriculture.

I am just asking the Government about the Sixth Report on Demands for Grants 2000-01. It says:

"No amount of persuasion by RBI on these banks seems to have yielded desired results on this ground. The Committee, keeping in view that agriculture is the predominant occupation in rural areas recommend that RBI and Government would set out a timeframe within which these banks have to improve their farm credit substantially in order to conform to prescribed targets. "

It is about the priority sector lending to agriculture by the private sector banks. The Government's reaction is this. 'In order to achieve this stipulated target of 18 per cent of NDC lending to agriculture, the Government accepts the recommendation.' The Government accepts the recommendation of the Committee to set a timeframe within which the private sector banks would have to improve their farm credit substantially. What did they do? I am reading that also. They say:

"In response to a written query seeking further clarification as to whether RBI has fixed any specific timeframe within which private sector commercial banks have to conform to the prescribed targets for lending to agriculture, "

His Ministry says:

"RBI has advised the banks to take concrete steps to improve the credit flow to the private sector agriculture and weaker sections in a time-bound manner to be fixed by the banks themselves so as to reach the stipulated targets . â€¦

Even in such a situation, our public sector company, IOC wants that they should be allowed to purchase the shares of HPCL and BPCL. No, you will not allow them. Why is it so? The public sector will not be allowed to buy the shares when they have a strength.

I am not naming anybody here. There is some other company which has already become a monopoly, which had reached number two position as a private company in the Fortune list. After the merger they are being allowed.

Sir, State monopoly is bad.

â€¦ The need has been re-emphasised in periodical meetings. Also the action proposed to be taken by the banks is being monitored by the RBI and this Department."

According to a recent study by us, it has further declined and yet they say that their focus is agriculture.

Throughout the length and breadth of this country, unemployment has taken such a dimension that the Government does not take into account this burning problem. We do not know what is going to happen.

There is stagnation in agriculture. On the one hand, there is huge food stock. Six crore tonnes of food is available in the Government stock. They are proud that such is the stock. On the other hand, repeatedly, the attention of the Government is being drawn to the fact that more than five crore people are starving. They are selling their kidneys. They have been seen to sell their children for Rs.300, Rs.200 or Rs.100. The number of BPL families, according to their own admission, has gone up. They have been saying that poverty has come down from 36 per cent to 26 per cent but according to a latest admission, which is their own admission, more than six lakh households are there. If we take five members in each such family, it comes to more than 30 crore people.

Many economists are suggesting that we are badly in need of rural infrastructure. You have neither the money nor the will to improve the existing infrastructure. So, why do you not use the huge food stock for a massive 'food for work' programme? Here also, there is tokenism. Though you are doing it, actually you are not doing it as it should be done.

They are always comparing India with China. We have also gone in for reforms. It has been ten years of reforms. What is the productivity in agriculture in China? It is about four times our productivity and it is rising. I am not holding any brief for any particular view. Biotechnology is an area where we have very efficient professionals but how to use it for increasing productivity? What is the plan? We have seen certain plans that Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and others have presented but there is hardly anything to be seen in this Budget.

The revenue collection has sharply gone down. There is a shortfall of Rs.30,000 crore. Earlier, it was believed that

the lower the tax rates, the higher the compliance. Some theories were quoted but the psyche of the NRI is different from the psyche of the non-resident Chinese. The tax-GDP ratio is hovering around nine per cent. In some of the developing countries it is forty per cent. Even in Asian countries, it is more than 30 per cent; even in Sub-Saharan countries, it is higher than what it is in India. We have some super-rich people. In one day, when some marriages were celebrated in Delhi, it was seen that all the five-star hotels had been booked, the flowers came from Holland and the decorations were made by Indonesians. In such a country, how many people earn more than Rs.10 lakh annually? It is only 40,000 people. I am talking only about South Delhi. I am not taking into account other areas.

Sir, only forty thousand people in India are earning more than Rs. ten lakh a year! You take the point of tax evasion. Some people say and according to an estimate only 30 per cent of the income of the Indian rich is disclosed. It is rampant not only in the direct taxes and corporate taxes but it has extended to customs and excise also. We know about the disease of corruption involving very high officials and involving our security also. As it is well known to this House, I am not elaborating it.

This Government says that they will raise the revenue to the extent of 21 per cent and if you leave aside the petroleum thing, it will come to 17 per cent, while it is only three point something this year. How can that be? Is it possible? Can they ever reach the revenue target unless they have a radical will to touch their friends? It is because I am saying that the same people who are looting our national sector do not pay back in spite of so many things.

Now, they are speaking about asset reconstruction companies and all those things; DRT and all those things. Nothing has happened. Although the situation has not steeply deteriorated in the case of nationalised banks, in the case of private sector banks it is rampant. What is happening in the name of disinvestment? The hon. Minister owes an explanation to this House. You take the case of M/s. Jessop. It is a 120-year old industry. They manufacture coaches, wagons, cranes and many other things. According to an estimate by a very reputed consultancy firm, their assets were to the tune of Rs. 293 crore. When the Government of West Bengal was approached for help, they got one very small office worth Rs. 27 crore. Now this company is being sold at Rs. 18 crore. To whom is it being sold? It is being sold to an industrial house which owes to the Corporation Bank, IDBI and other financial institutions an amount of Rs. 75 crore as NPA. They do not pay it. Now, they are being given this firm, M/s. Jessop.

What is happening with IOC which is Number one Fortune company, in the public sector? They are virtually being ruined in the name of disinvestment from where this Government wanted to fulfil the target of Rs. 12,000 crore. It is just manipulation. They are telling the IOC to buy the shares of IBP. At what price are they telling to do it? It is four times the price that was existing. The price of IBP shares was Rs. 419 when IOC was being told to buy IBP shares and they were told to buy at a unit share price of Rs. 1,553. The average 52-week share is ten times higher. They have been compelled to buy IBP shares. They will be further compelled to buy further 20 per cent of IBP shares.

Even in such a situation, our public sector company, IOC wants that they should be allowed to purchase the shares of HPCL and BPCL. No, you will not allow them. Why is it so? The public sector will not be allowed to buy the shares when they have a strength.

I am not naming anybody here. There is some other company which has already become a monopoly, which had reached number two position as a private company in the Fortune list. After the merger they are being allowed.

Sir, State monopoly is bad.

But the private sector monopoly is good. What is the philosophy? It does not happen in China. Sir, they are directionless. We are not against reforms, but we have a meaning of reforms, what we are doing in West Bengal. Reforms are doing something good. When a road needs repairs, it needs repair for better utility. We have undertaken land reforms. That is a law enacted by the Congress. We have not invented it; we have implemented it. As a result of that, people have benefited. We have increased our agricultural production. For whose benefit are the reforms there? In China, the population-employment ratio is the highest in the world. After reforms, the situation is improving in China, while in our country, the people are becoming poorer and poorer. The gap between the rich and the poor is increasing and the same people who have accrued almost 90 per cent of the benefits of the reforms are being patronised by this Government. We have cheaper foreign liquor but costly kerosene; we have cheaper cosmetics but costly medicines. We are told that reforms are needed − it has been admitted − so that the Government can spend the money for the social sector, elementary education and health care etc.

What is the price rise in the service sector? Because of the time constraint, I am not taking much time. I am just mentioning about medicines. In the post-decontrolled era, according to the ORG-MARG studies, the price of 45 per cent of the medicines rose by 20 per cent and the price of 5 per cent of the medicine rose by 45 per cent. In 1995, control was lifted in respect of 270 drugs. There were 76 medicines in the Control List and now, 36 medicines have been taken away. Medicine is becoming costlier. Then again, there is new technology. How much does it cost to

have one MRI test? It costs Rs. 5,000. How much does ultrasonograph test cost? The cost of transport has increased and the railway fares have been increased. Ninety per cent of the burden will be borne by the second class and ordinary passengers.

They say that there is very low inflation, unprecedented during the last 25 years. I had asked the Finance Minister − he knows it better than me − what is the yardstick in the calculation of inflation, whether it is Wholesale Price Index or the Consumer Price Index. Though the Wholesale Price Index does not take into account the service sector, 52 per cent of the GDP is accounted for by the service sector only.

The cost of transport is rising. The fares of railway are rising. The medical cost is rising. Educational cost is rising. The cost of everything is rising. The inflation has come down. Why? It has come down largely because of the manufacturing sector. According to an ORG-MARG study, 25 per cent over-capacity is there. Manufacturing sector is taking into account the goods that are ordinarily used by the common people. They are not taken into account in the WPI and their low inflation rate is considered on that basis only. On that basis, they say that interest rate in the small savings should come down. It will be administered and lowered down. Middle-class people, salaried people, who have been putting their money in the PPF, PF and other small savings like *Kisan Vikas Patra*, will suffer.

Who will benefit? It is the corporate sector that will benefit. It is they who take the money from the banks, but do not pay it back. They ruin this country. It is they who have taken away the money from this country. Recently, I have read on a website, I could not believe it then and even now, that US $ 110 billion worth of Indian money has been deposited in different banks all over the world. The Swiss Ambassador was saying, I was amazed, that US $ 2,500 billion dollars worth of Indian money was deposited in different banks. Even now, I cannot believe it.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (CONTAI): What is wrong in that?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : You are a very learned former bureaucrat. You can just calculate as to what US $ 2,500 billion means. Ninety per cent of it is household savings. The rebate and concessions that were given earlier under Section 88 of the Income-Tax Act have been withdrawn. It will be a great disincentive to the middle-class people who deposit their money in the banks. What will the mute, salaried class people do? The Government has done it with an eye on lesser interest burden. Now, they are free to borrow more. Maybe, at a point in time, it will lead them to a lesser interest debt trap. They lowered the interest rates to borrow more with a less interest burden. This will be virtually pauperising the middle-class.

Our household savings rate was 25 per cent and, now, it has come down to 20 per cent or 21 per cent. The household savings rate is 40 per cent in China. Please look at Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, and Japan. The Finance Minister is giving concessions to the NRIs, and here our small investors have been duped by the unscrupulous operators in the share market. The small investors, who have no way but to put their money somewhere, have been looted by vanishing plantation companies. Now, that middle-class is the target of this Finance Minister. A virtual war has been declared against the middle-class. What will happen? A study says, "Such steps will create a situation that ultimately it will ruin our savings."

Our NRIs are being patronised. How much do they contribute to the growth of our economy? I am not casting any aspersion. There is a study on Indian Diaspora, talk about double citizenship and there are many other things. The non-resident Chinese brings back to his country whatever he earns. Eighty-five per cent of the non-resident Chinese contribute to the foreign exchange earnings. In our case, it is only five per cent or six per cent. They got that money only because the non-resident Indians were interested in higher interest rates, be it the Resurgent Bonds or be it the India Millennium Bonds, and we will start repaying it very soon.

The three strong points of this Government, they say, are low inflation rate, huge food stocks and comfortable foreign exchange reserves. It is illusory, if we take into account the experience of Brazil, if we take into account the habits and psyche of the NRIs. This is what has happened in many other countries. We have been taking pride that we have been insulated from the East Asian crisis.

Now, let us take the case of partial convertibility. How much time does it take for the accrual of foreign exchange? It is a long drawn process, even after continuous monitoring and intervention of the RBI and others. It is a dangerous thing, an illusory thing. Indian money is being allowed to be taken away because the Government does not know how to invest it. At a time when investment is the urgent requirement of the nation to meet a situation of demand constraint, this Government does not know what to do or how to do. They are directionless.

I do not question his wisdom about more allocation to the Defence. It should be allocated.

But we should have a re-look at every other aspect. So many things are coming. I have written a letter to the hon. Speaker about certain things. I would not like to mention about the contents of that letter here. But why should there not be any accountability? They could not spend the money that was given to them. The Minister promised that no further money would be given to them. I would not like to question that.

Sir, physical security is important. But more important is economic security. No country in the history of this world has survived without economic security. The former Soviet Union was a powerful country in terms of military power. You yourself have been saying all these things. Physical security is one thing and economic security is another thing. There is growing unemployment and joblessness. People are being deprived and pauperised. While some people are getting poorer by the day, some people are getting richer by the day. If that is what you call `reforms', then people would love to hate this word called `reforms'.

Sir, we are in favour of a national consensus. The Government should discuss it with the State Governments. The financial conditions of the States are in doldrums. What is the reason for this? It is not that there are only Left Governments in West Bengal and Tripura. There are 15 other States in this country that are ruled by the Congress Governments. The Congress Government only initiated the reforms process. Let there be a full-fledged discussion on this. What are the problems of the Central Government? It is sometimes made out as if the Centre is a holy cow and is above everything else and has not committed any sin. But in reality it is the other way round. I am not mentioning about any particular party that is in power at the Centre. I am mentioning about the Centre-State relation in general. The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission have not been given effect to. The Centre says that if the State fulfil certain conditions then only they would be given certain things. Ours is a federal polity. It is a Union of States. The Centre cannot behave like a big brother. Such an attitude would bulldoze the views of the State Governments and this is a sad commentary on our polity. There should be a re-look into this aspect.

श्री ब्रह्मानन्द मंडल (मुंगेर) : आप भी इधर बैठेंगे तो ऐसे ही करेंगे।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्री रूपचन्द पाल : हम ऐसे नहीं करेंगे। It was not from our party. Do you understand what I mean? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb him.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, then I come to the social sector. There was the 93rd amendment of the Constitution with a view to providing free education to students of the age group of six and 14 years. But this year only a sum of Rs. 908 crore have been allocated in the Budget. This is an inconsequential amount. If you see the recommendations of the Tapas Mazumdar Committee, you would find that it had recommended for a sum of Rs. 14,000 crore for this purpose. The Financial Management Memo talked about an allocation of a sum of Rs. 9,800 crore for this purpose.

Sir, now in the name of Defence expenditure, a surcharge has been imposed. What is a surcharge? Collection of funds through levy of surcharge means depriving the States. The hon. Minister may ask as to wherefrom he would raise money and resources. But, should he not be innovative? Has he only the service sector alone, in a limited sense, where he can lay his hands on?

17.00 hrs.

I am not just referring to better tax administration with latest technology and more transparency. Agriculture is a State subject and, of course, agriculturists are suffering a lot due to declining productivity and profitability. At the same time, the mercantile capital in some of the States has surpassed the industrial capital. There is agricultural wealth and rural wealth.

As far as I know, there was a study that was conducted by a very important Governmental agency on this rural wealth. There may be some innovative ways by which some business houses are depriving this Government of revenue. I am not making any particular mention, but this Government owes it to the nation to take this into account. We are not against reforms, I reiterate it, but it should be in the interest of the nation, in the interest of the people who have suffered the most, who have been deprived the most. But the reverse is taking place. That is the point we are grudging. You change the orientation; you change your direction! You do a better phasing and sequencing of your reforms! In the name of disinvestment, do not sell out the profitable organisations! World over mergers are taking place to add to the financial strength.

Even in India, Reliance went in for merger with another entity. TATA, AT&T and BPL have merged and we welcome it. But when it comes to insurance sector, even after performing reinsurance, General Insurance can have financial strength as a merged entity along with its subsidiaries. That was the recommendation of the Public Sector Committee. I gave a dissent note on it and it is public knowledge. Why should not our public sector undertakings be allowed to merge? Why should not IOC be allowed to bid for HPCL and BPCL? Why this discrimination that they must pay a certain amount of tax? In the case of foreign companies, tax is being reduced. Entrepreneurs are really hurt that they are not being patronised.

I do not know how the Finance Minister will take it. Sir, some of us had the occasion to meet one Shri Shankar Sharma. His only fault was that he is an excellent professional. He and his wife are one of the top income tax

payers in the country. This man had a 14 per cent stake in a company called Tehelka.com which had exposed this Government. I am not going into whether that was right or wrong; there is a Commission of Inquiry looking into it. For days together, he is being kept behind the bars. Some of us had the occasion to speak to him. I for myself can tell this House that he is one of the best professionals in the financial sector that I have seen.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Yeah, yeah, absolutely.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : If he has committed any wrong, he should be punished according to law of the land. He brought a lot of foreign exchange into the country. He encouraged foreign investment in this country a lot. Today, he is being punished for all that.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Being persecuted, not prosecuted.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I am not holding any brief for him. If he has committed any wrong, he should be punished according to the law of the land. Just because of an incident that has happened in Mumbai or Delhi, he should not be punished like this.

Sir, I am not going to take much time of the House. I will just say a few things about subsidy. The Government is bringing down subsidies on fertiliser, urea, etc. After the WTO agreements, we are the fools, as a nation; I am not mentioning any particular Ministry or anything like that. The world over, the European Union countries, America, etc. are providing the highest subsidies under one name or another. How can we be competitive? How can our farmers be competitive? We are speaking about diversification in agriculture. Of course, it should be done. We have excellent pool of professionals in agriculture; we have research scientists, etc. But even in such a situation, if the subsidy is withdrawn under one name or another, it will severely hurt our agriculture.

Let us take the capital expenditure now. The Government says that infrastructure is its highest priority. But the capital expenditure, this year, is to be increased by Rs.9,696 crore. Out of this, the capital expenditure on defence is Rs.4,554 crore. So, non-defence capital expenditure is Rs.5,244 crore, a rise of 12.1 per cent. If capital spending on defence is excluded, there will be a rise in capital expenditure which would be 22 per cent in this fiscal; and now, it has come down.

Mr. Minister, I am making a very important point.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: All your points are very important!

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I say that for all practical purposes, in non-defence capital expenditure, the amount has been reduced. If I am wrong, you can correct me. In non-defence capital expenditure, it has been reduced and not increased, although the claim is that there should be an increase in infrastructure, etc.

He understands that reform means − in this year's Budget − lowering of small savings' interest rates. They attacked the middle class and the salaried class by hiking the rates of fertiliser, kerosene, LPG, candles, tooth paste, etc. and de-reserving the small industries, thus putting pressure on the States so that they also can initiate anti-people measures, anti-peasant or anti-farmer measures and anti-working class measures. The financial markets have been opened up and it will have disastrous consequences.

I shall conclude with one warning to this Government, by saying what is happening in the capital market. I know that the Cabinet has considered some amendments to the SEBI Act, with the OCB route or the Mauritius route. Time and again, we have drawn the attention of this Government as to how this route is destabilising our capital market which has disastrous consequences waiting for us. I want to know from this Government. I am not mentioning any particular company or any particular OCB route or anything like that. I want to know who is the regulator? Is it the Reserve Bank of India? Is it the Department of Company Affairs? Is it the Coordinating Body? Is it the SEBI? Who is controlling it till today? I have no answer. The hon. Minister owes it to the House.

With these words, I oppose this Budget lock, stock and barrel.

1709 hours

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (ELURU): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I only congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting the Budget for 2002-2003.

First of all, I have to say that the rate of inflation has come down substantially which is below two per cent, which has never happened, and also the reserves have gone up, which is more than 50 billion dollars.

(p3/1710/rk-skb)

This is the greatest achievement. I feel that you still have to improve a lot in other sectors. In every meeting where

we meet, we discuss that the Government should give a lot of emphasis on agricultural growth and GDP. The growth of this country is dependent only on the growth of agriculture. Agriculture is the most basic thing for us.

In the field of agriculture, you have given substantial amount of support by allowing free movement of agricultural products, liberalising export restrictions and also removing restrictions on MMP, that is the milk and milk products. This is a good sign. But today, as Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and other Members have mentioned, our agricultural production must go up. If you want to have 3.5 per cent to 4 per cent agricultural growth, you need to put in a lot more additional hard work. Today, we have surplus in rice, wheat and sugar but still we have to increase the productivity.

We are still importing a lot of edible oils. The import of edible oil has to come down substantially. The production of edible oil should also go up in the country so that we are able to reduce the dependence on the import of edible oil. We should give more thrust to it.

For the last few years the Government has taken a lot of interest on development. You have increased the warehouse capacity. That was the main problem. You have also provided increased support for cold storage facilities. These are very essential for us. While the production has gone up, we have to proportionately develop these facilities in order to see that wastage is not much.

I felt bad when the FCI has said that it wants to slowly withdraw from the area of food procurement. This, according to me, is the biggest danger for us, especially for the agricultural production because it is the FCI which knows the production pattern of the whole country State-by-State. It can coordinate better because it knows which State is having the surplus and which State is producing less. So, I think that the FCI has to do this job in order to see that the agricultural production is sustained and brings substantial returns. It should also see that they get the remunerative price otherwise it will again affect the agricultural production.

As we have discussed earlier, the food processing industry requires more attention. We find that if the agricultural production comes down, prices go up very high. That is why I say that production is very important. Recently, in Karnataka we have seen that the prices of tomatoes came down to less than a Rupee and within four month the price went up to more than Rs.20. This is because the food processing industry is lagging in various other facilities that it requires urgently. The same is true of the vegetables, fruits and other agricultural products. We have to develop this industry.

When we talk of agriculture, agricultural resources should also be developed. A number of people are finding it difficult to survive with small holdings because of the Land Ceiling laws. As a result, a number of them have shifted to fishery, milk production and poultry. The Government should give a lot of thrust to all these things. When there is surplus in the country, we have to do two things. Firstly, we try to help them to utilise a part of the surplus production for the purpose of generation of employment potential. We have also to see that the godowns will again be filled with new production.

In rural areas you are making available free supply of rice and other essential commodities. It is a good thing. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has talked about the poverty alleviation. I would say that the poverty alleviation is very important in villages and rural areas.

At the same time further growth of agriculture can be ensured.

I also agree with Shri Rupchand Pal as far as bio-technology is concerned. If you achieve the productivity level of China and other places, still there would be tremendous scope for increase in production with the existing irrigated area. So, agricultural production can be increased substantially by using bio-technology and various agricultural skills.

The Kisan Credit Card scheme that was introduced is also working very well. I feel that the subsidy which is being provided by the developing countries in the WTO regime, has to come down so that we can compete in the export market. Take for example poultry. We can produce cheap and best quality product in this country. As the developing countries give 60 to 70 per cent subsidy, they are able to compete with us. So, if we can give subsidy for something like this, we can also export it. There is a lot of scope for this in the export market. More than 60 to 70 per cent people who live in rural India should be give an opportunity for development.

As has been pointed out by the Members on the other side, I also feel that the increase in the price of fertilisers should be reconsidered. It is the agriculture based industries where fertilisers should be used in a balanced way. If the nitrogen subsidy is the problem, let us give other subsidies for other products so that they can use other things like phosphatic potash. We should also give scientific support to the farmers and tell them how to utilise the soil condition. Soil analysis and various other scientific assistance can be given. They should be told about scientific approach so that they can produce exportable quality product. Today what is happening is that these people are using indiscriminately the hydro carbon insecticides like DDT, BHC and other things. If they do that, the export

market will not accept their product. So, if you want them to produce agricultural products which are exportable, you have to develop these things. If it is necessary you have to give other insecticides at subsidised rate so that the agricultural production is exportable to the international market and we can capture other markets also. But these are basic things which would strengthen the agriculture base.

Sir, repeatedly our hon. Finance Minister has told that agriculture is more important for us and that we have to give support to them. That is why, I am also paying more stress on this and telling him the basic things that we require.

As regards milk products, it has shown improvement. Now, we have started to produce cheese, butter and various other things. We can use these products at various levels and it will be very useful for us.

A lot of people, especially the agriculturists are worried about WTO. On this point, I agree with the hon. Finance Minister that the import of agricultural products has come down substantially. It is only the scare that is there. We have enough amount of protective duties and tariff protection. Wherever there is a need, we can also use these protective duties. In the case of sugar, we have already used it and we have stopped import of sugar. But now we have to go in for exports. We have to give enough support for export of agricultural products.

In the case of other agricultural products, even the Kellogs have now come in to produce corn flakes. So many other things can be produced in this country. If we could develop quality and exportable products, we can definitely compete in any market. So, we have a lot of scope for that.

Now, I want to say a few words about rural development. Poverty alleviation is a very important thing. As regards rural development, we require drinking water scheme, road development scheme, etc. The Government has given a lot of support for link roads. But the Government has to implement it on the ground. Already Rs.5000 crore have been allotted. But so far they have not finalised the procedures and programmes which should be able to come up so that people could realise the importance of link roads that you are planning to develop.

In the case of rural development, we also need a lot of support for schemes like DWCRA which is a very good scheme. This scheme is working very well in Andhra Pradesh. A number of women in the rural areas have come out with a lot of products under this scheme.

In a number of rural areas ladies have come out with various products in what is known as 'Self Help Groups'. In Andhra Pradesh alone about sixty lakh ladies are there in these 'Self Help Groups'. They have already deposited in the banks more than Rs.900 crore. They are really progressing well and this is going a long way in the poverty alleviation of those areas. We are also giving money from the MPLADS for the construction of buildings under DWCRA. Our hon. Chief Minister also suggested the construction of more buildings where they can exhibit their products, hold meetings and conduct training programmes and a host of other things can also be done in those buildings. That is how they are really coming up very well.

At this juncture I would request the hon. Finance Minister to consider the unanimous request of all the MPs. They want additional amount under MPLADS. You may make it conditional that they should use it only in the rural areas and in some parts of the urban areas, so that this additional amount goes only towards poverty alleviation. We have brought this matter to your notice a number of times. I would request you to see that somehow these poverty alleviation schemes are implemented. I have found in a number of places, wherever MPLADS funds also have been utilised, it has made a substantial difference. In fact, this fund is being utilised for the purpose of constructing school buildings, community halls in very remote places also. Drinking water schemes, construction of roads and so many developmental activities are taking place in hitherto unheard of places also. Once you know for yourself the progress made under this scheme, I am sure you will give a lot of support to it.

When I talk about rural areas, agriculture is a part of it and management of water resources is connected to agriculture. I am happy that this year the allocation for irrigation projects has gone up by Rs.800 crore, which is substantial. We would like to see that with this increase, there would be a marked improvement in the various hydel schemes. During floods we experience a lot of destruction. Fresh water flows into the sea and we face a lot of scarcity of drinking water as well as water for agriculture. You have to take up management of flood water schemes. If you do not have enough resources for this, you can approach some multinationals who may be interested to put up these projects so that the sub-soil water position will improve and the total water resources position will also improve.

In view of the fact that we are subjected to various kinds of pollution, many of your schemes will have to be agriculture oriented and rural area oriented. If you take up more and more power generation projects, you can minimise the damage caused by floods. In fact, once you are able to take care of the floods, allocation for calamity fund will also be reduced to a great extent. Not only that, it will also benefit the country in the long run.

In the case of agriculture I would also like to emphasise that seed development is a very important aspect. It will go

a long way in improving agricultural productivity. In the export oriented sector we find that textiles is the biggest exporter in this country. Our competitor is China, as somebody has said. More than Rs.40,000 crore is coming from the export of textiles alone. You have to see how the excise duty imposed on the textile products is affecting the people. I have got reports from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and a number of other States that this is affecting the people and they want it to be reconsidered.

In the case of granite industry also, more than 500 units have been closed down after the recent hike in the excise duty. We must have gone about it on the basis of some studies. You may please reconsider the hike in the duty here also. Generally, the industry people are scared about dumping from outside. We have an excellent mechanism called anti-dumping. You can immediately take one measure on the lines of the safeguard duty. If you put the safeguard duty for 90 days, by that time the anti-dumping system can be put into operation.

In the case of FDI you have constituted a Committee in which they are able to take quick decisions. Many people say that in China people are able to decide FDIs one way or the other within one or two months.

Here, when the project comes up, nobody can say as to how much time it will take. But after the FDI Committee is put into operation, they will be able to say quickly and people will be able to decide as to what is going to happen. That is one thing that we require here also. Anti-dumping and safeguard duties are also required.

Coming to the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh, under DWCRA, ladies have already been sanctioned more than 40 lakh gas connections. We call it *deepam.* Now, this year, it is going to be another 35 lakh connections. It is not a luxury there. These gas connections are for domestic purpose. It is the common and the lowest level people are using it. That is why, the other day, we have represented to you that the price should be rolled back to the old price and the same applies to kerosene also. It is because the poorest people of rural areas are using them. Both kerosene and gas prices must be rolled back. In the case of petrol, you have already reduced it by 50 paise. There, probably, people have not asked for any reduction. You can keep the price fixed for petrol but see that the prices of kerosene and gas are reduced for the sake of the people in rural areas and for poverty alleviation.

Coming back to taxation, I have two suggestions to make. In the case of taxation prospects, savings are coming down. Right from 27 per cent today, it has come down to 22 per cent. We have to improve the savings in order to implement our projects and for various developments in this area. On the other hand, you have levied 5 per cent extra tax with the result, salaried people are going to suffer now. Salaried people are straightforward people. The non-salaried people are spending lakhs of rupees in marriages and are not paying taxes. We are also widening the tax base by one-sixth. It has ensured the source of revenue but it has to increase. Even today also, 2.5 per cent people are paying tax. That means out of 100 crore people, only 2.5 crore people are paying tax. At least, if you are able to bring ten crore people under the tax net by various methods and different techniques, then revenue will increase substantially.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): What are the various methods by which this can be done? Please enlighten us on that.

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : We can also suggest. But a committee can go into that and they will be able to give various recommendations on that point. I feel that we have to take a particular aspect into consideration and widening of tax base by one-sixth will also be improved substantially. But we have to take into consideration other sectors also.

Now, take the case of stock markets. We have to try and cultivate people's habit to invest in the stock markets. Earlier, they were all investing in gold or something else which is non-productive. So, our idea of going for this is that our people should go into productive-oriented investment. If this sort of a calamity occurs in the stock markets, that will create a lot of confusion in the minds of people. That is why, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to take some serious steps in this regard and see that stock markets are stabilised. It should be supported with different methods. Earlier, you have also promised that our base is irreversible. People believe it but for the last two years, you have imposed some sort of a surcharge and other things. That is not a problem. But this time also, you have put 5 per cent surcharge for various things which is also okay. But again, you have put tax on dividends. Earlier, you have said that you are not going to tax dividends. You have to reconsider that and see how you will be able to do it.

There are a number of issues in which we want to draw your attention. The other day, Governor of Reserve Bank said that we expect 6 to 6.5 per cent growth rate next year. We have planned to attain at least 10 per cent of growth. Even if we are able to reach 6 to 6.5 per cent by whatever method, it will be a great achievement for us. This is a very important issue which I feel that we have to do some exercise.

Leaving others, a substantial amount of allocation of funds for various sectors is going for non-productive areas like paying interest on borrowings and repayment of interests. Defence expenditure which is of Rs.65,000 crore and the amount earmarked for salaries and wages, we cannot reduce immediately now. Keeping all these into

consideration, we have to see how to increase allocation to various sectors.

There are two items in the small scale sector on which I would like to draw your attention.

With the amount of work that we have done, we have not been able to improve the small scale industries. We have to see how we can improve them. As far as sickness of industries is concerned, though we say that we have BIFR, it is not enough. Thousands of crores of rupees have been blocked in these industries by way of equipment etc. So far, we have not been able to come out with any successful proposal to remove sickness. We can think of amalgamations and other things. We have to see what are the items we can support. We have to see where our strength lies. In the case of gold, we saw what happened. The duty has come down and it has been liberalised. Gold jwallary has become one of the biggest profitable industries for India. We are able to give a lot of employment and we are getting good export market in the case of gold jwallary.

We are developing software market. We should see in which areas we can do well. We have to see where our strength lies. Subject to other things, we believe that cement and steel industries, which are basic industries, will be able to give push, the economy can recover and it can come out of recess.

I have given a Report on North-East. We have to improve the employment opportunities in North-East areas so that we can reduce insurgency in that State. If we go into all these aspects, probably we will be able to strengthen our economy and we can improve it.

With these few words, I support the Budget.

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन (फिरोजाबाद) : सभापति जी, हम वर्ा 2002-03 के बजट पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। जहां तक श्री यशवंत सिन्हा जी का सवाल है, मैं उन्हें वर्षों से जानता हूं। उनमें कई गुण हैं और देश के लोगों को गुमराह करने की अभूतपूर्व क्षमता उनमें है।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : और कितने गुणों की तारीफ करेंगे?

श्री किरीट सोमैया (मुम्बई उत्तर पूर्व) : मुझे पता नहीं था और उन्हें भी पता नहीं था।

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : सोमैया जी, आप यहां कम समय रहे हैं और हम ज्यादा समय रहे हैं।

सभापति जी, बजट चाहे सरकार का हो या परिवार का, वह मात्र आय-व्यय का लेखा-जोखा नहीं होता। अतीत का संतोा, वर्तमान का सुख और भविय की समृद्धि बजट में निहित होती है। मैं आंकड़ों में नहीं जाना चाहता। हमारा देश कृाि प्रधान देश है। कृाि और परम्परागत कुटीर उद्योगों को जब तक पर्याप्त संरक्षण नहीं मिलेगा, तब तक हिन्दुस्तान जैसे देश में, जहां गरीबी, बेबसी और लाचारी है, उस पर हम काबू नहीं कर सकते। इस बार देश का बजट चार लाख दस हजार करोड़ रुपये के करीब है।

असल सवाल यह है कि पिछले साल की तरह जो गैरयोजना व्यय है, वह 2.97 लाख करोड़ रुपये है और योजना व्यय 1.73 लाख करोड़ रुपये है। बहुत मोटा-मोटा और व्यावहारिक बात यह है कि एक रुपया पहुंचाने के लिए इस प्रशासनिक ताम-झाम पर सरकार 3 रूपये खर्च करेगी। यशवन्त जी, मेरी आपसे विनम्र प्रार्थना है कि यह जो गैरयोजना व्यय है, इसमें कटौती करने का काम मजबूती के साथ करना चाहिए। यह जो सारा सरकारी ताम-झाम, फिजूलखर्ची है, अगर इस पर अंकुश नहीं लगा, इस पर काबू नहीं किया गया तो कोई अच्छे नतीजे निकलने वाले नहीं हैं।

जहां तक खेती का सवाल है, आपने अपने बजट भााण में कहा कि अब न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य प्रथा को जारी रखना मुश्किल हो जायेगा। किसानों की उपज के भंडारण की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था नहीं है, आप न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य देंगे नहीं। उस परिस्थिति में बिचौलिये ही किसान को मार डालेंगे। आप जानते हैं कि 1971 से लेकर अब तक, मैं गेहूं की बात कर रहा हूं, गेहूं का समर्थन मूल्य सात गुना बढ़ा है और उत्पादन लागत 15 गुनी बढ़ी है। कोई परस्पर तालमेल, कोई परस्पर सामंजस्य समर्थन मूल्य और उत्पादन लागत में नहीं है। हमारे देश में कृाि उत्पादनों का जमावड़ा हो जाता है, इकट्ठा हो जाता है और इसका प्रमुख कारण यह है कि किसानों की उपज के भंडारण की कोई व्यवस्था हमारे देश में नहीं है। हमारा उत्पाद न देश में बिकता है, न विदेश में। उसका प्रमुख कारण यह है कि उत्पादन लागत ज्यादा है, इसलिए मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि आज यह ऐलान कर देना कि हमारे लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य जारी रखना मुश्किल हो जायेगा, मैं समझता हूं कि इसका हर कीमत पर विरोध होगा।

आपके बजट में सिंचाई पर जिक्र किया गया है। विकास का जो आधारभूत ढांचा तैयार किया गया है, उसमें सिंचाई का कोई उल्लेख नहीं है। हमारे देश में इस समय सिर्फ 36 प्रतिशत जमीन सिंचित है और शेा जमीन असिंचित है, वह प्रकृति के ऊपर निर्भर है। वर्ा अच्छी हो गई तो फसल अच्छी हो जायेगी, वर्ा अच्छी नहीं हुई तो फसल अच्छी नहीं होगी। जब तक सिंचाई की पर्याप्त व्यवस्थ हमारे देश में नहीं होगी, तब तक किसान किसी भी कीमत पर खुशहाल नहीं रह सकता। पिछली बार बजट भााण में यशवन्त सिन्हा जी ने त्वरित सिंचाई का एक कार्यक्रम बनाया था और उसमें दो हजार करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया गया था। इस बार जो वित्त मंत्री जी का बजट भााण है, उसमें 2800 करोड़ रुपये सिंचाई के लिए आबंटित किये गये हैं। लेकिन सच्चाई क्या है, सच्चाई यह है कि अब तक जो परियोजनाएं निर्माणाधीन हैं, उनको ही अगर ईमानदारी से पूरा करने का काम हो तो सिंचाई परियोजनाओं को पूरा करने के लिए 82 हजार करोड़ रुपये की आवश्यकता है। जितने धन की आवश्यकता है, उतना धन आबंटित होगा नहीं, सिंचाई का पर्याप्त इन्तजाम नहीं होगा, ऐसी परिस्थिति में किसान किसी भी कीमत पर खुशहाल नहीं रह सकता। हमारे देश में पानी के भण्डारण की कोई समुचित व्यवस्था नहीं है।

देश की बड़ी नदियों का 50 प्रतिशत से भी कम पानी हम प्रयोग में ला पाते हैं। शेा पानी का उपयोग ही नहीं होता। इसलिए मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि सिंचाई पर समुचित ध्यान दिया जाए। अगर हमने सिंचाई पर ध्यान नहीं दिया, तो किसान की हालत भविय में और बिगड़ेगी और फिर आपको किसानों के आक्रोश का शिकार होना पड़ेगा।

इसी सदन में खुद सरकार ने स्वीकार किया था। मेरे पास आंकड़े हैं, विश्व बाजार की तुलना में हिन्दुस्तान में खाद महंगी है। 1997 से लेकर अब तक हमारे पास आंकड़े उपलब्ध हैं। किसानों को आप महंगी खाद, बिजली, बीज और डीजल देंगे तो उनकी हालत कैसे सुधर सकती है। रासायनिक खाद काफी महंगी है। उसका प्रमुख कारण यह है कि रासायनिक खाद बनाने में जो ईंधन का प्रयोग होता है, वह ज्यादा महंगा है। इसलिए इस समस्या पर भी हमें ध्यान देना होगा।

अभी हमारे मित्रों ने जिक्र किया था कि किस तरह से आपने रसोई गैस और मिट्टी के तेल के दाम बढ़ाए और किस चालाकी से रसोई गैस के दाम आधे कम भी कर दिए। आज उपभोक्ता पर इस हद तक भार डालना ठीक नहीं है। 9 जनवरी, 2001 को एक अध्यादेश बहुत चालाकी से जारी किया गया। जिसमें एक्साइज ड्यूटी तेल पर बढ़ाई गई। उसमें पैट्रोल पर 32 प्रतिशत से 90 प्रतिशत और डीजल पर 16 प्रतिशत से 20 प्रतिशत एक्साइज ड्यूटी 31 मार्च तक बढ़ा दी गई। इस प्रकार सरकार ने 1500 करोड़ रुपए से लेकर 2000 करोड़ रुपए तक इक्ट्ठा कर लिया, फिर बजट में उसको वापस ले लिया। आप जानते थे कि सदन से स्वीकृति नहीं मिलेगी।

सभापति जी, मैं आपकी मार्फत सरकार से कहना चाहूंगा पिछले वर्ा राट्रपति जी के अभिभाण में और 1998 में लालकिले के मैदान से हिन्दुस्तान के प्रधान मंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने कहा था कि हम आने वाले दस वर्षों में दस करोड़ लोगों को रोजगार देंगे। राट्रपति जी के अभिभाण में जिक्र किया गया था कि हर वर्ा एक करोड़ लोगों को सरकार रोजगार देगी। लेकिन इस बार के राट्रपति जी के अभिभाण में इस बात का कोई जिक्र नहीं है। यशवंत सिन्हा जी, जो बेरोजगारों की फौज देश में खड़ी हो रही है, अगर इनको काम नहीं मिलेगा तो स्थिति बिगड़ेगी। आज हमारे देश में जो तनाव है, कानून और व्यवस्था की स्थिति खराब है, पूरे देश के तनाव के बारे में हम विचार करें तो मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूं कि अगर उसकी जड़ कहीं है, तो वह बेरोजगारी के अलावा दूसरी नहीं है। मैं महात्मा गांधी, डा. लोहिया और जयप्रकाश नारायण जी के देश में हिंसा की वकालत नहीं कर सकता, लेकिन मुझे माफ करना शिक्षित बनने के बाद, शिक्षा ग्रहण करने के बाद, बड़ी-बड़ी डिग्रीयां लेने के बद अगर देश के नौजवानों को रोजगार नहीं मिलेगा, तो वे अपने आपको हिंसा के रास्ते पर डाल लेंगे, उनको कोई माई का लाल नहीं रोक सकेगा। लिहाजा इस समस्या की ओर गम्भीर रूप से ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

देश में रोजगार की तलाश करने वालों की संख्या में 2.24 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हो रही है, जबकि रोजगार के अवसर एक प्रतिशत बढ़े हैं। आर्थिक उदारीकरण के नाम पर आपने पूरे देश को चौपट कर दिया है। इस रोजगार की समस्या पर सरकार को सोचना पड़ेगा और ईमानदारी से प्रयास करना पड़ेगा। वह खगोलीकरण एवं आर्थिक उदारीकरण से देश की जो हालत बना दी गई है, उसमें हिन्दुस्तान के परम्परागत और कुटीर उद्योग बर्बाद हो गए हैं।

सभापति जी, अभी पिछले समय में डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी जी ने शिक्षा को मौलिक अधिकार देने के नाम पर 6 से 14 वर्ा तक के बच्चों के लिए शिक्षा को अनिवार्य करने की बात कही थी और उसमें हल्का सा संकेत दिया था कि मां-बाप अपने बच्चों को स्कूल नहीं भेजेंगे तो उन्हें प्रताड़ित किया जाएगा। मैं आपसे निवेदन कर दूं कि इसके लिए 900 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई जबकि आकलन के हिसाब से इसके लिए 14000 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। मौजूदा जो हालत है, उसके हिसाब से 18000 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। हम शिक्षा को मौलिक अधिकार बनाने की बात करते हैं लेकिन क्या कभी हमने अपने आप से पूछा कि बच्चे स्कूल क्यों नहीं जाते और परिवार की माली हालत क्या है? उस परिवार के मुखिया के पास कोई रोजगार का साधन है कि नहीं है? बच्चे स्कूल कैसे जाएं? मैं अभी अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र में दौरा कर रहा था। एक सात साल का बच्चा 6-7 महीने के बच्चे को खिला रहा था। मैंने उससे पूछा कि क्या तुम स्कूल नहीं जाते हो तो वह बोला कि स्कूल कैसे जाएं, मां-बाप खेत में काम करते हैं और इसको खिलाने वाला कोई नहीं है। जब तक यह बड़ा नहीं हो जाएगा, मैं स्कूल नहीं जा सकता। जिन परिवार के सामने आर्थिक अभाव है, जिनकी माली हालत ठीक नहीं है, जो अपने पैरों पर खड़े नहीं हैं तो वे अपने बच्चों को स्कूल कैसे भेजेंगे?

हमने श्रम के कानून बनाये। हम बाल-श्रम पर प्रतिबंध लगाने की बात करते हैं। मैं खुद श्रम मंत्री रहा हूं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि बच्चों से काम करवाना कैसे रोका जाए? एक परिवार में 80 साल का वृद्ध है और मां बीमारी की शिकार है और आठ साल का बच्चा है। अगर वह बच्चा काम नहीं करेगा तो उस घर में चूल्हा नही जल सकता। किस परिस्थिति में उनको काम करना पड़ता है और वे क्यों नहीं स्कूल जा पाते, यह एक बुनियादी सवाल है। इस पर जब तक ध्यान नहीं देंगे तब तक बात नहीं बनेगी।

यशवंत सिन्हा जी, बैंकों का 63000 करोड़ रुपये से भी ज्यादा आज लोगों पर कर्जा बकाया है और पिछली बार जब आपने भाण किया था तो उसके लिए ट्राईब्यूनल बनाया और ट्राईब्यूनल बनने के बाद 18700 मामले उन ट्राईब्यूनल ने निपटाये। मैं समझता हूं कि ये आंकड़े सितम्बर 2001 तक के हैं। यह जो 63000 करोड़ रुपये का बकाया था, इसमें से सिर्फ 3527 करोड़ रुपया प्राप्त हुआ। सरकारी धन की अगर सुरक्षा नहीं होगी तो यह सरकार कहां जाएगी? ये जो बड़े लोग हैं, जो अमीर लोग हैं, तिकड़मबाज हैं, इन पर लाखों-करोड़ों रुपया बैंकों का बकाया रहता है और गांवों का गरीब किसान और जिसने कुटीर उद्योग के लिए पैसा लिया, छोटा उद्योग चलाने के लिए पैसा लिया है, अगर उसके पास 3000 या 2000 रुपया बकाया है तो बैंक उसकी रिकवरी के लिए उसे तहसील जेल भेज देंगे।

तहसील में दस परसेट अलग से लगता है और किसानों को परेशामी उठानी पडती है तथा 14 दिन की तहसील की जेल में अलग से जाना पड़ता है। अमीर आदमियों के खिलाफ कर्जा वसूल करने के लिए प्रभावी कार्रवाई होनी चाहिए। उस मामले में आप सख्त नहीं है। जब तक इन लोगों के खिलाफ सख्ती से कार्रवाई नहीं करेंगे, तब तक यह पैसा वसूल नहीं हो सकता है। जहां से दौलत आ सकती है, जहां से प्रयास करके दौलत को निकलवाया जा सकता है, इस पैसे को निकलवा कर आप गांव और गरीब पर खर्च नहीं करेंगे, तो देश कैसे तरक्की करेगा।

सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि हमारे देश में प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं का बहुत बुरा हाल है। मुझे अन्य प्रदेशों के बारे में मालूम नहीं है। 1972 में संभव उत्तर प्रदेश में प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र बने थे। उस समय एक ब्लाक की आबादी 50 हजार रही होगी, लेकिन अब वह बढ़ कर बहुत ज्यादा हो गई है। इन प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों का वार्षिक बजट 12 हजार रुपए है। इन प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों में टैक्निशियन्स, नर्सिस और डाक्टर्स की तनख्वाहें एक महीने की तीन लाख रुपए है। इन प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों में सुधार की बहुत आवश्यकता है। वास्तव में देखा जाए, तो गरीब दोनों तरफ से मर रहा है। प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों में दवायें उपलब्ध नहीं है और एस्कार्ट व अपोलो में जाने की उनकी हैसीयत नहीं है कि वे वहां इलाज करा सकें। स्वास्थ्य सेवायें बहुत मंहगी हो गई हैं। स्वास्थ्य से वाओं को ज्यादा बेहतर बनाए जाने की आवश्यकता है। आप जानते हैं कि अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान(AIIMS) में सबसे ज्यादा लोग इलाज कराने के लिए आते हैं। माननीय यशवन्त सिन्हा जी, पिछली बार बजट में इसके लिए 100 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था थी, लेकिन इस बार यह व्यवस्था 105 करोड़ रुपए है। हमारे पास ग्रामीण अंचलों से एम्स में इलाज कराने के लिए लोग आते हैं, देश के कौने-कौन से आते हैं, महीनों तक उनका इलाज चलता है, भर्ती के लिये तिथियां मिलती रहती हैं, लेकिन भरती नहीं हो पाते हैं। एम्स में मरीजों की संख्या का अत्यधिक भार है और जैसा मैंने कहा, लाखों लोग एम्स में इलाज कराने के लिए आते हैं, इसलिए इस संथान की ओर ज्यादा ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। कारण यह कि ग्रामीण अचंल का आदमी स्थानीय इलाज कराने के बाद अगर दूर कहीं जाता है, तो एम्स के अलावा दूसरी जगह नहीं है।

अंत में, मैं वित्त मंत्री, माननीय यशवत सिन्हा जी, से बेरोजगारी की समस्या पर नम्र निवेदन करना चाहूंगा। अभी हाल ही में उत्तर प्रदेश के चुनाव हुए हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के चुनाव में हमारी पार्टी का जो चुनाव घोाणा पत्र था, उस चुनाव घोाणा पत्र में हमने वायदा किया था कि हम बेरोजगारों को बेरोजगारी भत्ता देंगे। इस पर हमारी पार्टी के अध्यक्ष और इस सदन में दल के नेता, माननीय मुलायम सिंह जी, से बराबर लोग सवाल करते थे कि आप बेरोजगारी भत्ता कहां से देगें? मोटा-मोटा हिसाब हमारे मित्रों ने लगाया कि पिछली बार जब बीजेपी की सरकार थी, तो उसमें 100 मंत्री थे और निगम के अध्यक्षों को मिलाकर 200-250 लोग होंगे। वास्तविक संख्या मैं नहीं जानता हूं।

यह जो फिजूलखर्ची और अय्याशी है, अगर इस पर अंकुश लग जाए तो बेरोजगारों के साथ काफी हद तक इंसाफ हो सकता है। यशवंत जी, किसानों के कल्याण के लिए, श्रमिकों के साथ इंसाफ करने के लिए, परम्परागत उद्योगों को बचाने के लिए अगर कोई सरकार सार्थक पहल नहीं कर सकती तो उस सरकार के बजट का कोई अर्थ नहीं है। यह बजट जन-विरोधी है, इसलिए मैं इसकी आलोचना करता हूं और अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

श्री किरीट सोमैया : सम्मानीय सभापति जी, आप महाराट्र से आए हैं, इसलिए मैं जिस कहावत से प्रारम्भ करने जा रहा हूं उसे आप समझ पाएंगे।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Please be kind enough to explain.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : I will explain. मराठी में कहावत है - "निन्दक काचे घर हवे सेज़ारी," इसका मतलब है कि निन्दा करने वाला व्यक्ति अपने घर के पड़ौस में रहने वाला होना चाहिए।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह (महाराजगंज, उ.प्र.) : इसलिए आप यशवंत जी के पड़ौस में हैं।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : आप मंत्री जी की ज्यादा तारीफ मत करिए, उससे आपको ज्यादा लाभ नहीं होने वाला है।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह : यहां ये भले ही तारीफ कर दें, बाहर तो कैंची चलाते हैं।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती शीला गौतम (अलीगढ़) : एक 80 साल के बूढ़े का आठ साल का बेटा है। मैं सोच रही थी कि उसका आठ साल का बेटा कैसे हो सकता है।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्री किरीट सोमैया : सभापति जी, मैं यह कह रहा था कि अगर इतने अच्छे पड़ौसी हों और वे इतनी अच्छी निन्दा करते रहें तो उसके कारण सरकारी पक्ष भी जागरूक रहता है। इस प्रकार का चित्र यहां हमारे मित्र और विरोधी पक्ष के लोगों ने रखा। मुझे उसके ऊपर एक उदाहरण याद आता है - एक शिय की पढ़ाई पूरी हुई, वह गुरु के पास गया। शिय ने गुरु से कहा कि गुरुदेव, मेरी शिक्षा पूरी हो गई है मैं गांव जाऊं और वह गांव चला गया। वहां जाकर उसने चौराहे पर पेड़ के नीचे एक सुन्दर, अच्छा चित्र निकाल कर रखा, उसके नीचे काला चौक रखा और लिखा कि अगर इस चित्र में आपको कहीं कोई त्रुटि, कमी या बुराई दिखाई दे तो आप इसके ऊपर मार्किंग करिए। दूसरे दिन शाम को वह वहां पहुंचा तो पूरा चित्र काला था। किसी को लगा नाक अच्छी नहीं है, किसी को लगा कान ठीक नहीं है, अंगुलियां बराबर नहीं हैं। वह शिय गुरु के पास चला गया और उनसे कहा कि गुरुदेव, मुझे कुछ नहीं आता। गुरुदेव ने कहा कि वत्स, तू वापस वहां पर जा। शिय फिर से वहीं पर गया और वहां जाकर वही चित्र रखा, लाल चौक रखा और नीचे लिखा कि अगर आपको इस चित्र में कहीं कोई अच्छाई नज़र आए तो आप इसके ऊपर मार्किंग करिए। दूसरे दिन पूरा चित्र लाल था - किसी को लगा नाक बहुत अच्छी है, किसी को लगा पैर बहुत सुन्दर हैं। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि देखने की दृटि में अंतर है। यहां पर बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों को लगता है कि पूरा बजट, अर्थ तंत्र काला ही काला है, लेकिन देखने के लिए दृटि चाहिए।

अभी मेरे सीनियर सहयोगी सुमन जी बोल रहे थे कि 57 हजार करोड़ का एनपीए, बड़े-बड़े लोगों को यशवंत जी ने पैसा दिया और वापस वसूल नहीं कर रहे हैं। अगर ये थोड़ा सा और अंदर जाते तो इन्हें पता चलता कि एनपीए कौन से समय का है। यह बैंक ने कर्जा कब दिया था।

18.00 hrs.

मैं होता तो कहता कि एनपीए का अर्थ यह होता है कि तीन से पांच साल के कर्जे की किश्त नहीं दी तो एनपीए बनता है। इसका अर्थ यह है कि जब आपने बड़े-बड़े पूंजीपतियों को कर्जा दिया तब उसके कारण यह एनपीए बना।

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will have to take the consent of the House. There are so many speakers. So, the time will have to be extended. Should we extend the time up to eight o' clock?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBER: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We extend the time of the House by two hours. Time is extended up to eight o' clock. There are about 15 more speakers.

श्री किरीट सोमैया : सभापति जी, माननीय मणिशंकर अय्यर जी कह रहे थे कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने ग्राम सड़क योजना बनाई और उदाहरण दे रहे थे स्थानीय समिति का और कह रहे थे कि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी फॉर रूरल एंड अर्बन डैवलेपमेंट में फिगर आई कि 1 लाख 53 हजार करोड़ रुपया गांवों की सड़कों को पूरा करने के लिए, बनाने के लिए लगेंगे तथा कह रहे थे कि माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी कितना पैसा देंगे। मैंने उस समय टोका नहीं। मैं कहने वाला था कि यह बात आप गर्व के साथ कह रहे हो या शर्म के साथ कह रहे हो। देश को आजाद हुए 55 साल हो गये और उसमें से 46 साल तक आपकी या आपके सहयोग से चलने वाली सरकारें थीं, हमारी सरकार को तो केवल चार साल ही पूरे हुए हैं। ये 1 लाख 53 हजार करोड़ रुपये के रास्ते जो बनने बाकी रह गये हैं, इसके लिए आपको शर्म आनी चाहिए थी। मैं वास्तव में यह कहने वाला था कि किसी चीज को देखने की दृटि चाहिए। अगर सही देखने की दृटि होती तो यह कहा जाता कि in 20 years, it is the first time inflation is not only 1.16 per cent but also it is stable almost for one year. एनडीए की सरकार वर्ा 1998 में बनी। उस समय मुद्रास्फीति की दर 8 प्रतिशत से कुछ ज्यादा थी। In 1991, it was how much? It was double digit inflation. वह किसी ने नहीं कहा। किसी ने यह नहीं कहा कि फूड प्रोडक्शन 60 मिनियन टन हो गया। Two years back, we had 34 billion American dollars. Then, it went up to 43 billion dollars last year. This year it has crossed to 50 billion dollars.

क्या यह प्रगति नहीं है, इसको आप क्या कहेंगे। The rupee depreciation is less than 2 per cent. क्या रुपये की कीमत घिसटती जा रही है, क्या यह सब 10 साल में नहीं हुए हैं। दस-पन्द्रह साल पहले एक रुपये की कीमत 16 रुपये थी तो देखने की दृटि चाहिए। आज सरकार ने आम किसान को महत्व देने का प्रयत्न किया है। मुझे लगता था कि 100 करोड़ किसानों के लीडर इसकी प्रशंसा करेंगे। आप बताइये कि यह 64 हजार करोड़ का एग्रीकल्चर क्रैडिट वित्त संस्थाओं और बैंकों के द्वारा किसने उपलब्ध करके दिखलाया। It was less than 44,000 crore just five years back. This year our target is 75,000 crore. किसान क्रैडिट कार्ड योजना आम किसान के लिए, छोटे किसान के लिए है, बड़े किसान के लिए नहीं है। When it was started just two years back, it was started with 46 lakhs and this year it has crossed two crores. यह किसके लिए है, किसानों के लिए है। किसानों को हमने क्या नहीं दिया। किसान के उत्पादन को कोल्ड-स्टोरेज में रखने के लिए, क्रॉप इंश्योरेंस को बढ़ावा देने के लिए, एग्रीकल्चर इंश्योरेंस कोरपोरेशन को 2500 करोड़ देना, ये अलग-अलग योजनाएं इस सरकार ने की हैं

माननीय सभापति जी, चीजों को देखने की यह एक दृटि है। Today what is the global economy? My friend, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, was comparing India with four years, five years or 10 years back so-called leaders and all these things. He could have compared Indian economy, Indian growth with the global economy. आज पूरे संसार में रिसेशन है और सभी जानते हैं कि आज ि वश्व में हालात क्या हैं। Germany's growth was just 0.6 per cent in 2001. In USA, it was 1.1 per cent while in Japan, it was

0.4 per cent. But in India, this year we have crossed 5.4 per cent growth. यह काम हो सकता है। इसमें और गति आनी चाहिए थी। गति आयेगी अगर ग्रोथ-ऑरिएंटेड अर्थव्यवस्था होगी और उससे सभी को फायदा होगा।

I too agree with that. एग्रीकल्चर ग्रोथ नैगेटिव होने जा रहा था। Whether it is agriculture, whether it is infrastructure, whether it is roadways or whether it is power. उन पर आज पैसा लगाया और कल उत्पादन और ग्रोथ होनी शुरु हो जाएगी, यह सम्भव नहीं है। इसके लिए 5 साल 10 साल और 20 साल की लौंग टर्म इंडस्ट्रियल पॉलिसी, एग्रीकल्चर पॉलिसी, फाइनेन्स पालिसी चाहिए। हमारी सरकार के आने के बाद एग्रीकल्चर ग्रोथ 4.5 परसैंट हुआ। इसका कारण यह है कि गए दो साल में किसानों को क्रेडिट कार्ड दिए गए और आम किसानों को ऋण के रूप में मिलने वाली राशि को बढ़ाया गया। That is why the growth in agriculture has crossed 4.5 per cent.10 हजार करोड़ रुपए ग्रामीण लोगों को इस साल ज्यादा उपलब्ध होने वाले हैं। The net income would go up by Rs.10,000 crore and this would straightway go to the economy. इससे उपभोक्ता के हाथ में पैसा आएगा। वह इसे इकॉनोमी में लगा रहा है। This year, we have read that the RBI has also now projected that our total industrial growth would be around 6.5 per cent. It is not only the RBI that has given this projection but the World Bank has also given the same projection.

कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह : यह किसान की दशा का वर्णन चार्टर्ड एकाउंटैंट के नजरिए से है, हकीकत के नजरिए से नहीं।

श्री किरीट सोमैया : मैंने इस बारे में पहले ही उदाहरण देकर बताया कि देखने का नजरिया ठीक होना चाहिए। अगर किसी को पीलिया होगा तो उसे सब पीला दिखायी देगा।

ग्लोबलाइजेशन, डबल्यूटीओ, इंडस्ट्रिलाइजेशन, लिबरलाइजेशन की बहुत बात की जाती है। जब भी ऐसा बात होती है तो इन पर चर्चा भी की जाती है। आप इसकी जरूर चर्चा करें। हमने कभी शिकायत नहीं की। Who signed the WTO agreement and the agreements on globalisation and liberalisation? मनमोहन सिंह जी या कांग्रेस पार्टी की सरकार ने डबल्यूटीओ पर हस्ताक्षर किए। इसके बाद यूनाइटेड डैमोक्रेटिक फ्रंट की सरकार ने उसे आगे बढ़ाया। All right, there may be compulsions. लेकिन कभी यह सोचा कि एक दूसरे पर टीका-टिप्पणी करने से क्या होने वाला है? क्या इस प्रकार की एक चुनौती हम समाज में निर्माण नहीं कर रहे हैं? डबल्यूटीओ है तो है, यह वास्तविकता है। Now, nobody can change it. So, we have to accept it as a challenge and treat it as an opportunity.

जिस पार्टी की जहां भी राज्य सरकार है, वहां क्या परिस्थिति है? आप यहां बैठ कर एक भाा बोलते हैं और अपने राज्य में दूसरी भाा बोलते हैं। महाराट्र, राजस्थान और कर्नाटक में देख सकते हैं।

where the Chief Ministers are talking and debating about liberalisation, globalisation and opening up. दोहरी नीति क्यों अपनायी जाती है? ऐसा करके क्या आप देश का हित कर रहे हैं? डब्लयूटीओ पर आपने हस्ताक्षर किए लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री और वित्त मंत्री ने इस बारे में कभी कुछ नहीं कहा। मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। इस बार एक्साइज डयूटी का रैशनलाइजेशन करने के लिए मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं। मध्यम वर्ग और सैलरीड क्लास के बारे में बहुत बातें हो रही है। मैंने हिन्दुस्तान लीवर, कॉलगेट और दूसरी कम्पनियों के विज्ञापन देखें। उन्होंने कहा कि फर्स्ट मार्च के बाद यह बजट लागू होने के करण एक्साइज डयूटी में कटौती हुई है। साबुन, शैम्पू से लेकर हर चीज के पदार्थ एक रुपए से सात रुपए कम हो गए। चाय के दामों में कमी हुई। It has been brought down to Re.1 per kg.

18.09 hrs (Shri P.H. Pandiyan in the Chair)

मणिशंकर जी राजमार्गों की बात कर रहे थे। चार शहरों को जोड़ने वाला सपना आज तक लोगों को स्वप्न दिखायी देता था। नेशनल हाईवे का प्रोजैक्ट किस ने बनाया? आपने तो इसकी कल्पना भी नहीं की थी। हम इस सपने को साकार कर रहे हैं। दिसम्बर 2004 में सात हजार करोड़ रुपए का प्रोजैक्ट पूरा होने वाला है। वह 31 दिसम्बर को पूरा होने जा रहा है। वास्तव में लिबरलाइजेशन के फायदे और नुकसान दोनों हैं। आज इंटरस्ट रेट कम हो रहा है। इससे कुछ वर्ग के लोगों को नुकसान होने वाला है। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि जो सीनियर सिटिजन और सैलरीड क्लास है, उनकी सेविंग के लिए कुछ प्रावधान करना चाहिए क्योंकि भारत की संस्कृति बचाने की है। वैस्टर्न कल्चर क्रैडिट कार्ड कल्चर वाला है। वह कमाता बाद में है और खर्च पहले करता है। हमारे संस्कार ही ऐसे हैं कि हम पैसा बचाते हैं। हम पैसा खुद के लिए नहीं अपनी संतान के लिए बचाते हैं, आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए पैसा बचाते हैं। So, we must give incentives to the saving culture.

लेकिन साथ ही मै यह कहना चाहूंगा कि जब मध्यम वर्ग की बात निकलती है तो क्या मध्यम वर्ग को क्या कम बैनिफिट्स मिलते हैं? इंटरैस्ट रेट्स की बात हुई तो वह हायर इंस्टालमैंट पर टी.वी.से लेकर अनेक चीजें खरीदता था। मैं ने भी कर्जा लिया था। You think about this. What was the interest rate four years back? We were paying more than 21 per cent. In 1994-95 we have also purchased television sets on hire-purchase or instalment schemes. We have purchased houses by taking loans. The rate of interest was 20 per cent. आज कम है । 13 परसेंट इंटरैस्ट रेट कम होने से दोनों को बैनेफिट होगा।

सभापति जी, मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी का आभार मानता हूं कि उन्होंने एंटी-एड्स मैडिसन्स पर एक्साइज ड्यूटी कम की है और इसके लिये मैं उनका अभिनन्दन करना चाहूंगा। इसके साथ ही जहां तक फारेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व की बात है, मेरे पास इंडियन रुपीज़ की जो फिगर्स आई हैं, मैं उन्हें बताना चाहूंगा.

As on 31.3.1999 we had a foreign exchange reserve of Rs. 1,55,000 crore; as on 31.3.2000 it was Rs. 1,84,000 crore; as on 31.3.2001 it was Rs. 2,04,000 crore and as on 31.3.2002 it was Rs. 2,41,000 crore.

जब से माननीय यशवंत सिन्हा जी वित्त मंत्री बने हैं, वे मैंने आंकड़े पढ़कर सुनाये। जब उन्होंने शपथ ली थी तो फारेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व ऑलमौस्ट निगेटिव था लेकिन वह रिजर्व एक लाख 55 हजार करोड़ का था , बढ़कर 2 लाख 41 हजार करोड़ तक हो गया। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने एक अच्छा बजट पेश कर इकौनौमी ग्रोथ देने का प्रयत्न किया है। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी को कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूं। इन्होने पॉवर सैक्टर में ज्यादा इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर पर जोर दिया है। The core sector growth has made a signal recovery. पिछले साल ग्लोबलाइजेशन के कारण कोर सैक्टर में जो रिसैशन था this year the petroleum thing which was going up at 6.5 per cent has started growing at 10.1 per cent. The coal industry has shown growth from 1.7 to 5.2 per cent. The overall growth was from 1.6 per cent in January-February, 2002 which has gone up to 5.9 per cent.

सभापति जी, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने एल.पी.जी. का रेट कम किया। मैं इस संदर्भ में बताना चाहूंगा कि कम्पीटीशन में इसका जरूर फायदा होता है जिसे हमने कम्युनिकेशन्स में दखा है। श्री दासमुंशी ने कई बार अपने भाण में कहा है कि कम्युनिकेशन में भ्रटाचार है, ये देश को बेच रहे हैं, यह होगा, वह होगा। मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। इसके बाद क्या आई.एस.डी.,एस.टी.डी. और इंटरनैट के रेट्स कम नहीं हुये हैं? आज से तीन साल पहले दिल्ली-मुम्बई एक मिनट के लिये 80 रुपये लगते थे जो आज घटकर केवल 9 रुपये रह गये हैं। पहले यू.पी. से आये हुये कामगार अपने घरों पर बात नहीं कर सकते थे लेकिन आज रेट कम होने से वे खुश हैं।

सभापति जी, मैं वित्त मंत्री से कहना चाहता हं कि उन्होंने पैट्रोल प्रोजैक्ट पर लिबरल चार्ज किया है जिसे चालू रखना चाहिये अर्थात् सबसिडी की कटौती धीरे-धीरे करें। Everybody has appreciated it. आपने देखा है कि पेट्रोल का दाम एक रुपया लीटर और डीजल का 50 पैसे प्रति लीटर रेट कम कर दिया है। इसी प्रकार कम्युनिकेशन सैक्टर में किया गया है। आप देखेंगे कि आने वाले दो साल में पेट्रोल का दाम 4 से 5 रुपये प्रति लीटर के नीचे जा सकता है। कम्पीटीशन के कारण लोग ज्यादा कार्य-क्षमता दिखाते हैं लेकिन मैं वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूं कि when we are opening various sectors, when we are going for liberalisation, we must be cautious about foreign investment.

आपने एफ.डी.आई. और एफ.आई.आई. की जो प्रोपोज़ल्स रखी हैं, यह बहुत रिस्की मार्ग है

the FIIs and the lobbyists will certainly try to approach various parties and leaders and various industries. इन्हें आप खोल दो और यह सरकार की नीति है कि कम्युनिकेशन्स, इंश्योरेंस, फाइनेंस, डिफेंस में भी है। हालांकि चीन में नहीं खुला है और अनेक देश हैं जैसे अमरीका में है।

There are many segments where more than 40 per cent FDI is not allowed.

FII is part of FDI. We cannot deviate. आपके पास लॉबीस्ट आयेंगे और कहेंगे कि यहां एफ.डी.आई. का महत्व क्या है। अगर आप 49 परसेन्ट एफ.डी.आई. में रखोगे और एफ.आई.आई. के द्वारा 25 परसेन्ट और ले लो तो निश्चित रूप से वह फॉरेन कम्पनी हो जायेगी। इसके लिए मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं जब हम यह रास्ता खोल रहे हैं तो हमें इसे भी ध्यान में रखना पड़ेगा।

साथ ही मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि आपने बाई-बैक की एक नई पॉलिसी शुरू की है। यह आपने अच्छी भावना से किया है इससे कैपिटल मार्केट को पुश मिलेगा। लेकिन अनुभव यह है कि बाई-बैक का मल्टी-नेशनल्स दुरुपयोग कर रही हैं। Twenty-five multinationals have applied with the Bombay Stock Exchange and they want to get de-listed. क्या होगा, कैडबरी कम्पनी यहां चाकलेट बनायेगी, चाकलेट हम और आपके बच्चे खायेंगे और उसका प्रॉफिट इंग्लैंड में बैठे हुए उसके शेयर होल्डर्स ले जायेंगे। It is a risky path. That is why, I would request the Government to re-think. जिस प्रकार से आपने बाई-बैक की पॉलिसी ओपन कर दी है, In China and many other countries, 26 per cent domestic investment is compulsory. एक ओर अभी हिन्दुस्तान लीवर ने एफ.आई.आई. 49 परसेन्ट तक करने का ऐलान कर दिया है तो यहां के स्माल इन्वैस्टर्स के हाथ में क्या आयेगा। एक ओर आपने स्माल इनवैस्टर्स प्रोटैक्शन फंड बनाया है, अच्छी बात है। I certainly appreciate it. It is for the first time that it has happened in India. मैं आपकी प्रशंसा करूंगा कि आपने स्माल इनवैस्टर्स प्रोटैक्शन् एक्ट बनाने का ऐलान है। लेकिन साथ-साथ कुछ ऐसी चीजें हैं, जिन्हें ध्यान में रखना आवश्यक है। मैं आपसे एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा कि the role of the financial institutions and the nominee Directors. The Government may belong to anybody; the Governemnt may belong to any party and it may be the Government in any area − it may be the Government of Maharashtra, Gujarat or India − but the role of financial institutions and the role of the nominee Directors of various Governments should be discussed one time. किस प्रकार से ये रोल प्ले कर रहे हैं। चाहे वह फाइनेन्शियल इंस्टीट्यूशन एल.आई.सी. हो, आई.डी.बी.आई. हो। पिछले दिसम्बर में मैंने लार्सन एंड टूब्रो के बैकडोर टेक ओवर की तरफ आपका ध्यान आकर्ति किया था। एल.एंड टी. तथा यू.टी.आई. ने किस प्रकार से रोल प्ले किया। Are they not accountable to Parliament? Are they not accountable to the common man? वे बिजनेसमैन के साथ मिलकर अगर कम्पनी पीछे के दरवाजे से बेचने का प्रयत्न करेंगे, ICICI और ICICI बैंक का मर्जर हो रहा है, उसके स्वैप रेश्यो क्या है। The 34 per cent holding of the financial institutions will go down to 17 per cent and nobody is questioning it. मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करना चाहूंगा कि जो नोमिनी डायरेक्टर हैं, उनका रोल चैक होना चाहिए। उसी के साथ-साथ जो टेकओवर कोड का प्रोविजन है, चार साल से सेबी ने टेकओवर कमेटी कोड बनाकर रख दिया, लेकिन वे अनाउन्स नहीं कर रहे हैं, फाइनलाइज नहीं कर रहे हैं और उसके कारण बैकडोर से ये सब काम हो रहे हैं। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि जैसा मैंने बाई-बैक की बात करते समय कहा एक ओर मल्टी-नेशनल्स अच्छी कम्पनीज बाई-बैक कम करके डीलिस्टंग इश्यू कर रही हैं और दूसरी ओर जो अच्छी-अच्छी इंडियन कम्पनीज हैं, वे ए.डी.आर. और जी.डी.आर. लगाकर फॉरेन में अपना इश्यु डिक्टेट कर रही हैं। लेकिन इसके कारण इंडियन मार्केट में एक वैक्युम क्रिएट होने की संभावना है।

मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि आप आई.टी. इंडस्ट्रीज को हिन्दुस्तान में बहुत प्रोत्साहन दे रहे हैं और उसके कारण आई.टी. ने हिन्दुस्तान में ही नहीं दुनिया में नाम कमाया है। We must take care of one more industry where India has got tremendous scope and that is pharmaceutical industry. मैंने आपको एड्स की दवाई का एक उदाहरण देना चाहूंगा कि जो एड्स की मैडिसन भारत में बनती है उसकी पर मन्थ, पर कस्टमर क़ॉस्ट 3500 रुपये आ रही है। आपने उसमें 16 परसेन्ट एक्साइज के कम कर दिये, जिसके कारण उसमें 700 रुपये कम हो गये। वही मैडिसन अमरीका और इंग्लैंड में 75000 रुपये की है। Indian pharmaceutical companies have got this much scope. इसलिए हमें आई.टी. पर ध्यान देना चाहिए, लेकिन आई.टी. पर ध्यान देते समय फार्मास्युटीकल कम्पनीज का इंडिया में बहुत स्कोप है। इंडिया में सिपला, रैनबैक्सी आदि कितनी टक्कर ले रही हैं। फार्मास्युटीकल कम्पनीज ने जो दो-चार रिक्वैस्ट्स की हैं, वह मैं आपके सामने रखना नहीं चाहता हूं। लेकिन बेसिकली कोई रिसर्च करना चाहता है तो उन्हें प्रोत्साहन देने की आवश्यकता है।

सभापति महोदय, मैं एक बात पर और ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि जिस प्रकार से टैक्स स्लैब्स को आपने उतना ही रखा है, यह प्रशंसनीय है। लेकिन साथ-साथ जो टैक्स की चोरी कर रही हैं, ऐसी कम्पनियों के ऊपर अधिक ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

आपने देखा कि मॉरीशस रूट का ओसीबी ने जिस तरह से मिसयूज़ किया, 700 ओसीबी मॉरीशस द्वारा रजिस्टर हुई और पूरे इंडिया की इकोनॉमी का उन्होंने सत्यानाश करने का प्रयत्न किया। What is the definition of OCBs? According to the definition, an OCB must have 60 per cent shareholding by an Indian origin person or an NRI. जो डैफिनिशन बनाई है, यशवंत सिन्हा जी ने नहीं बनाई है, लेकिन जिसने भी चार-पांच साल पहले बनाई होगी, शायद उसके ध्यान में नहीं होगा।

You know how the unscrupulous promoters have abused this provision that 60 per cent shareholding must belong

to an Indian origin person. उन्होंने पेड अप कैपिटल कितनी रखी - 2 डॉलर, और 2 डॉलर में ओसीबी बना दी और 700 कंपनियां हैं। मेरे पास डीटेल्स हैं। मॉरीशस में उनकी जो कैपिटल है, उसमें एक कमरे में 155 ओसीबी रजिस्टर हुई हैं। अर्थात्, आपने ओसीबी रूट बंद किया है लेकिन साथ-साथ मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करना चाहूँगा कि इंडियन कंपनीज़ भी अपनी सब्सिडीज़ वहां पर खोलकर टैक्स हैवन का वहां पर जिस प्रकार से उपयोग कर रही हैं, उससे नुकसान यह हो रहा है कि जो इंडियन ओनर कंपनीज़ हैं, उनको टैक्स ज्यादा देना पड़ रहा है और उसके लिए वह चीज भी हमें प्लग करने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिए। मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहूँगा, मैंने आपका एक स्टेटमेंट पढ़ा है। जैसे आपने डिविडेन्ड टैक्स वापस लागू किया। उसमें दो मत हो सकते हैं। एक ओपीनियन ऐसा था कि Why have we started it once again? लेकिन जो कल्पना है उसको भी समझने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिए कि जो इंडियन कंपनीज़ के प्रमोटर्स हैं, जो टोटली 30 प्लस स्लैब में हैं, 30 परसेंट जिनको टैक्स भरना पड़ता है, डिविडेन्ड डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन टैक्स के कारण उनको सिर्फ 10 प्रतिशत टैक्स भरना पड़ता था। जो प्रमोटर्स हैं जिनका dividend income is more than Rs. 50 crore or Rs. 100 crore, why should they be given 20 per cent tax benefit?

18.21 hrs. (Dr. Raghuvans Prasad Singh in the the Chair)

इसके लिए मैं आपकी प्रशंसा करता हूँ लेकिन आपने जो घोाणा की है कि छोटे-छोटे जो इनवैस्टर हैं, उनको हर साल टीडीएस सर्टिफिकेट जोड़ने की आवश्यकता नहीं पड़ेगी। मैं आपसे विनती करना चाहूंगा कि इस बारे में आप थोड़ा क्लैरिफिकेशन करें क्योंकि बहुत अच्छा है कि जो स्माल ऑनैस्ट टैक्स पेयर है उसको नुकसान कम होगा। कैपिटल मार्केट रिफार्म्स के बारे में भी आपने बात की है। आपने यूनिट ट्रस्ट होल्डर्स के छोटे-छोटे निवेशकों को समर्थन दिया जो एन.ए.वी. कम हो गई थी, जो पैसा था केन्द्र सरकार ने मान्य किया, आपने इस बजट में भी यू.एस.64 में जो डैफिसिट था उसका भी आपने प्रोविजन किया है, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभारी हूँ। लेकिन साथ-साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहूँगा कि पिछले 10-20 सालों से इस सदन में अनेक बार डिसकशन हुआ है कि जिस प्रकार से यूटीआई और फाइनेन्शियल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स को अनस्क्रुपलस प्रमोटर्स कार्पोरेट, कुछ अधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर वह अपने स्वार्थ के लिए पैसा यूज़ करते हैं, हर वक्त चर्चा होती है कि UTI must be made independent. UTI Act must be amended. आपने घोाणा की है मैं स्वागत करता हूँ और मुझे विश्वास है कि इस बार कम से कम आप यूटीआई एक्ट को अमेन्ड करके उसको बाकी मुचुअल फंड के बराबर बना देंगे। लेकिन साथ में एक प्रार्थना करना चाहूँगा कि यूटीआई की जो मंथली इनकम ्रगेाम है, there are more than one crore investors. They are also middle-class, salaried class persons. और एम.आई.पी. की जो एन्.ए.वी. है, वह सात-आठ रुपया है। एश्योर्ड रिटर्न स्कीम है। मैं आपसे विनती करना चाहूँगा कि जैसे यू.एस.64 के लोगों को आपने जो मदद की है, उसी प्रकार से आप इन लोगों की भी सहायता करेंगे। अंत में सभापति जी, मैं आपके सामने इतना ही कहना चाहूँगा कि इस सबसे जरूर कुछ लोगों के मन में कटुता निर्माण हुई होगी, कुछ लोगों को लगा होगा कि हमें ठेस पहुँचती है लेकिन फिर भी माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने एक लंबा दृटिकोण रखा है। टोटल रिफार्म्स को आगे ले जाते हुए एक क्लैरिटी लाने का प्रयत्न किया है। साथ में छोटे और आम आदमी की रक्षा करने और संतुलन करने का प्रयत्न किया है। इसलिए मैं उनका धन्यवाद करता हूँ, अभिनन्दन करता हूँ और मुझे विश्वास है कि आज सिर्फ चार र्वा पूरे हुए हैं, लेकिन ढाई साल के बाद फिर जब चुनाव होंगे और वापस पांच साल के लिए आप जब यहां चुनकर आएंगे और यहां जो बजट को नई दिशा दी है, उसका फल उस समय दिखेगा ऐसा मैं विश्वास करता हूं। मणि शंकर अय्यर जी नहीं थे, उनके लिए फिर से दोहराता हूँ कि मैंने प्रारंभ में एक मराठी कहावत कही थी कि -"निन्दकाचे घर हवे तेझारि" जिसका अर्थ है कि निन्दा करने वाले का घर पड़ोस में होना चाहिए।

सभापति महोदय, जैसे माननीय वैको जी ने अभी माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी और माननीय अटल जी का अभिनंदन किया कि उनकी सरकार के चार साल पूरे हो गए। उसी प्रकार से मैं माननीय मणि शंकर अय्यर जी और कांग्रेस के लोगों को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि आपको भी विपक्ष में रहते हुए चार साल हो गए और कम से कम हमारी सरकार में तो आपको विपक्ष में पूरे चार साल हो ही गए हैं। मेरी शुभेच्छा है कि इसी प्रकार आप विपक्ष में बैठकर कम से कम 10 र्वा तक अपनी जिम्मेदारी निभाते रहें। यही कह कर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the fifth General Budget that has been presented by Shri Yashwant Sinha. I would like to congratulate him for his having this opportunity to present the Budget for the fifth time. I have all the five Budget speeches of Shri Sinha with me. If we analyse all these five Budgets that have been presented by him, then we would get a clear picture of the BJP and their ideology. This is not a Government for the poor. This is a Government for the multinationals; this is a Government for the interested lobbies and corporate bodies. This is not a Government for the poor and the toiling masses of our country.

Sir, the promises made in the Budgets have not been fulfilled. Only a very few of those promises have been fulfilled and that too those are half-way through. Growth in the industrial, agricultural and in the stock market reflects the economic activities of our country. There has been a slow down in the economic scenario of our country. The grim economic condition is agitating the minds of all sections of our population. But there is no sign of any revival.

Sir, while listening to the speech of Shri Kirit Somaiya I was wondering if we are living in a country like India or in some other countries abroad. I was wondering as to whether Shri Kirit Somaiya lives in India or somewhere else. He painted a very rosy economic picture of our country. Even the Finance Minister would not deliver such a speech in this august House. I was astonished when I heard him.

Sir, every speaker from the other side was mentioning about the incident of 11th September and the resultant global recession and about the economic situation as was obtaining in the United States of America. The USA was busy in reviving their economic condition. They have emerged out of that slow down. But still we are talking about economic recession. I acknowledge that there is a global recession. Is that the only reason for the slow down of economic activities? Is that the only reason as to why the situation in our country is so grim in the economic front? The question is whether we would be able to withstand all these challenges and come out of this situation or not. The point is whether Indian economy would be able to stand up to this challenge and be able to offer a prosperous life to the poor and the down-trodden people of our country. That is the challenge before the Government. The question is, has the Government shown the way for it? I would like to know whether this Government has taken up this challenge and what steps does the Government propose to take to improve the living conditions of the poor people who are living in the remotest villages of our country. At the outset I would like to say that the Finance Minister in particular and this Government in general have totally failed in this regard.

Sir, the Budget exercise has become futile because the Budget has failed in attracting either domestic or Foreign

Direct Investment for the country. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar has rightly pointed it out and clarified all these aspects.

Sir, the economic scenario will become brighter; our economy will be revived only when foreign direct investment and domestic investment increase. Unfortunately, the Government has not given any priority to this aspect. The growth rate is slow. Such a growth rate will not help a country like India. Shri Kirit Somaiya was painting a very rosy picture of the economy. Even if the Government sleeps away, this growth rate of 5.4 per cent can be achieved by a country. Can India with its great potential, boast of such a growth rate? If the rate had been more than six per cent, one could draw some satisfaction from it. Only a sound growth rate will provide greater employment opportunities, better infrastructure, better availability of goods and services of which the poor and the average citizens of the country are deprived today.

Shri Kirit Somaiya was saying that basic telephone facility is provided all over the country. I would like to refer to a news item which reported Shri Pramod Mahajan, the Minister of Communications, suggesting at a meeting with the basic phone operating companies that the Government might take strong action against them if they did not fulfil their obligation for providing village public telephones. The Minister has set up a special cell to monitor that work. I do not want to go into further detail of this. By 2002, these companies were to set up about 98,000 village public telephones. But, they have provided only 639 connections so far. Is this the achievement, Shri Somaiya, that you are boasting of? Is this the picture you want to portray to the entire country? While your own Minister, Shri Pramod Mahajan, is warning the private firms for not fulfilling their obligations, how can you paint a rosy picture of the situation?

Lower growth rate and higher fiscal deficit are the contribution of this Government. The Finance Minister had promised that fiscal deficit will be lowered. Has any step been taken in this regard? He was boasting of an eight per cent growth rate in the Tenth Plan period. How will it be achieved? I would request the hon. Finance Minister to enlighten the House how he is going to achieve eight per cent growth in the Tenth Plan period.

Congress party has always been in favour of economic reforms. It was Congress party which initiated economic reforms. The world over there is change. We cannot live in isolation. We have to change ourselves along with the changing world. We have to reform ourselves. But, reforms should be carried out with a human face. Those countries which have not followed this principle in the past are suffering now. Certain African and Latin American countries are facing problems because of that. We are in favour of reforms, but the benefits of reforms should go to the poor people of this country. The process of liberalisation should help the poor and the downtrodden people of our country who do not have any say in these matters. They should get their due share. Are they getting their due share in the benefits? That is the question.

I would like to cite a very classic example here. Through para 162 of the Budget speech, in the name of correcting an anomaly, an eight per cent concession was given to the foreign companies. At the outset, I say that this Government is favouring only the foreign companies and multinational corporate bodies. In the Budget speech the Finance Minister mentioned repeatedly that an amount of more than Rs.10,000 crore in the form of outstanding taxes is pending from the corporate houses. I would like to know from the Finance Minister whether any step has been initiated by the Department for collecting this huge amount of money from the corporate houses in our country.

On the other hand, the prices of kerosene, LPG, tooth paste, etc. have been increased. Who is using them? In my State, kerosene is being used by common fishermen; they are using it for fishing activities. They are totally hit by this measure. On the one hand, he is giving concession to the foreign companies and on the other hand, he is taxing the poorest of the poor and down-trodden people. The nation needs an explanation from the hon. Finance Minister.

Surcharge of five per cent has been levied on all taxpayers. We are all concerned, of course, about national security. All patriotic citizens of this country will definitely support this measure, to strengthen our national security. At the time when our soldiers are fighting for sovereignty and freedom of our country in our borders, we salute them. But then, the Finance Minister should have levied tax on the people who can pay it. The higher income groups should have been the targets; if the higher income group is the target, it would have been widely accepted and it would have been widely welcomed. But here, the whole focus is on the common man.

No tax relief has been given to the fixed income groups. Earlier, when the Congress Government was there, we had given concessions and relief to the salaried people and fixed income groups. But the Finance Minister had not given any concessions to the salaried and fixed income groups.

About LTC, during the last Session also I mentioned about it. What is LTC? It is a privilege for every Government servant to go to his native place and to go from one place to another, in order to propagate the ideals of national integration. With LTC, one could go to his village and meet his relatives. These are the facilities enjoyed by the Government servants, from the 1970s. If I remember correctly, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister has introduced this for travelling to one's native place and also to enable them to have a sense of national

integration. But this has been stopped now. I thought that the Finance Minister would restore this facility in his Budget speech. Especially, the Tourism Ministry itself has recommended for the restoration of LTC because with the banning of LTC, the tourism industry has been hit very badly. So, I will request the hon. Minister to consider this, as a token relief to the salaried people in our country.

Coming to industrial recession, much has been talked about this. The steps taken by the Finance Minister had not yielded any significant change in the industrial scenario. Since the last Budget, he was saying that to revive our Indian industries or to revive the industrial sector, a lot of investment would be made in infrastructure, and that a lot of steps would be taken by the Government. So, a lot of Committees were constituted; a lot of reports were made available to the Finance Ministry; but still, industrial recession is there, which is a matter of great concern to us.

At page 163 of the *Economic Survey*, it says:

> "Industrial slow down is widespread, covering all broad sectors, such as manufacturing, electricity and mining, and all end-use-based groups such as capital goods, intermediate goods, consumer goods, durable and non-durable. The slow down in domestic and global demand appear to be the major factors concerning the industrial growth."

There is no strategy planned by the Government to arrest this industrial recession; this is my point. As a result of this, the revenue collection is coming down.

During the last three years, the expected revenue collection was not achieved because of this. The demand for the industrial goods has come down. The inventory is piling up. The purchasing power of the people is also coming down. The unemployment rate is going up in an alarming proportion. What about the promise given by the Prime Minister to create one crore employment opportunities every year? I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister how many employment opportunities were created during the last three to four years.

On the one hand, industrial recession is there and on the other, goods from other countries, especially China and Korea, are being dumped into our market. Time and again, we have asked the Government to invoke the anti-dumping clause. It fell on the deaf ears. As a result the Indian industry is perishing. The small-scale and medium industries, which are the backbone of our Indian economy, are totally destroyed. Retrenchment of workers, VRS, Golden Hand Shake are the order of the day. Under the WTO Agreement, we have to allow more and more import of goods to our country. As a result, the situation is aggravating day-by-day. Employment scenario is grim. More and more people are thrown out of employment. What are the employment opportunities for our youngsters, both educated as well as un-educated? There is no worthwhile policy to meet these challenges.

In the case of disinvestment, the flagship companies, profit-making companies, our *Navratnas,* are being sold and loss-making companies are being referred to the BIFR. In BIFR, they are undergoing the unending legal process. The employees are not getting social security measures. They are deprived of their salaries, PFs, gratuity, etc. I would seriously request the hon. Finance Minister that a lot of misgivings are coming up regarding disinvestment. A lot of irregularities and malpractices and under-valuing of assets are being noticed. A strict vigil on all these aspects has to be kept. Total transparency should be ensured. A lot of apprehensions regarding disinvestment are being expressed by various quarters. This has also led to an increase in the unemployment. On the other hand, we find there is down-sizing of the Government departments, ban on recruitment, retrenchment of employees and no step being taken to increase the employment opportunities in rural areas. Culmination of all these factors has forced us into a very peculiar situation.

The youth of the country is up in arms. There are no job opportunities for the young people of this country. They are in a total disarray. A very serious situation has developed which is not going to be eased until these things are attended to properly and immediately.

Agriculture is the core area which has to be given more attention. Of course, Hon. Finance Minister has done something for the agrarian society but it is not enough. More private investment is necessary in the agricultural sector. Mere cosmetic changes will not help. Window-dressing will not help. More attention is required to be paid towards it. More private investment is needed. At the same time, various measures mentioned in the Budge speech are welcome measures but I think the States are not in a position to implement them.

States are in a very bad shape. Almost all the State Governments are bankrupt. Almost all the State Governments are not in a position to pay salaries to their employees. This is the worst situation which is being faced by the State Governments. The infrastructure development for augmentation of the agricultural operations will not take place because of this financial crunch. So, special attention should be given to this aspect.

As regards food security, thanks to monsoon and farmers, the agricultural production is on the rise. Even though

our godowns are full, starvation deaths are taking place. Even the Supreme Court has to intervene in this. Of course, our farmers have done well and our godowns are full but due to lack of effective steps and measures, our people are suffering.

Sir, I come from a State, namely, Kerala, which had a well knit PDS system. But it has been destroyed completely. They have introduced BPL and APL. Sir, you were also the Minister at that time. So, you are also responsible for that. What is happening now is that the PDS has been completely destroyed. It is in disarray. Sir, even though agriculture production is increasing, the farmers are not getting remunerative price. For example, rubber production is very high but the farmers are not getting remunerative price. Similarly, the coconut cultivation is high but coconut growers are not getting proper remuneration. That is why, they are suffering.

Sir, last time the hon. Finance Minister promised that the import duty on palmolein would be raised to help the poor coconut farmers in our country. Sir, as Shri Aiyar rightly point out, during the visit of the Prime Minister to Malaysia, we have entered into a contract for more and more import of palmolein to our country. Sir, the sufferings of the poor cultivators, especially of the South including Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu is on the increase. So, steps should be taken in this regard and the import duty on palmolein should be raised. The WTO limit is 300 per cent and we could, at least, raise it up to 100 per cent so that the farmers could be protected.

Sir, out of our total import of agricultural products, only edible oil constitute 60 to 70 per cent. As a result of that, our farmers are suffering. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to take this aspect into serious consideration.

Sir, last but not least, we do not have a procurement policy. The farmers from all over the country whether it is Uttar Pradesh or Haryana or Madhya Pradesh or Bihar are suffering because there is no clear-cut policy. In the last Budget the Finance Minister introduced the so called decentralised procurement and distribution system which never took off. This time he is saying that he will constitute a Committee to go into the details. Sir, the harvest is going to be over and the farmers are going to suffer. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister what will be his policy, how the farmers will be helped, etc.

Sir, finally, I come to Employment Guarantee Scheme. Sir, the hon. Finance Minister had devoted one full page to employment in his Budget Speech. In this, he talked about all the *Rozgar Yojanas* and Poverty Alleviation Schemes which are existing in our country.

In every successive budgets we see new *Rozgar Yojanas* in the form of Prime Minister's *Rozgar Yojana* and now in the new name of *Jayaprakash Rozgar Yojana*. Every year we are hearing about new *Rozgar Yojanas* which are not really taking off. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to have a new look at all these employment programmes.

Mr. Chairman, in your State also the Central Government is giving 70 per cent grant for the employment schemes. But the State of Bihar does not have money to provide for its share of 30 per cent. Even the State of Kerala also does not have money to pay for its 30 per cent. As a result of it, these *Rozgar Yojanas* are not properly implemented in these States. The amount earmarked by the Central Government for this purpose will go to other heads like distribution of salaries, etc. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to have a re-look at all these poverty alleviation programmes and *Rozgar Yojanas.*

Shri Chandrababu Naidu suggested that if the Central Government cannot implement it properly, this money should be given to the States. Let the State Governments decide on the programmes according to their geographical conditions and according to the peculiarity of the situation prevailing in their States. The State Governments will formulate their own schemes and spend the money. This is a very good idea and I welcome it. It will help strengthen the Centre-State relations. People will also get more benefits out of it.

I would like to give an example of my State. Under the Prime Minister's *Rozgar Yojana*, for the construction of roads they require eight per cent of land whereas Kerala can provide only six per cent of land because of its high density of population. Like this every State has got its own limitation and its own peculiar geographical features. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to look into these *Rozgar Yojanas* and poverty alleviation programmes; reassess them and give a complete new look to these programmes and projects.

I think the hon. Finance Minister will give at least some solace to the common people and poor people. I do not expect much from him. He is a good man in the bad company. He represents a Party which cannot deliver goods to the people. That is why people of this country have rejected them in the last Assembly elections. A weak Government cannot give a strong economy.

With these words, I conclude.

श्री सुबोध मोहिते (रामटेक) : सभापति जी, अभी तक के वक्ताओं ने जो सम्भााण किया है, किसी ने बोला है कि हम इस बजट की निंदा करते हैं, किसी ने बोला है कि हम इस बजट की प्रशंसा करते हैं। मैं इस बजट की न निंदा करता हूं, न प्रशंसा करता हूं और न अपनी स्पीच में मैं कोई अध्याय सुनाने जा रहा हूं। मुझे पार्लियामेंट की तरफ से जो डॉक्यूमेंट्स दिये गये हैं, उसमें से फैक्ट्स एंड फिगर्स की बात मैं आपके सामने करने जा रहा हूं। हम सदन की इस साइड में बैठे हैं और एनडीए के पार्टनर हैं। इनके पार्टनर होने के नाते कुछ मुद्दों को हम लोगों को सपोर्ट करना होगा। नीतियों के साथ हमें रहना पड़ेगा लेकिन जहां नीतियां टूट जाएंगी, जहां वादे टूट जाएंगे, वहां शिवसेना की आवाज जरूर उठेगी। बजट के लिए हम काफी बोल सकते हैं, काफी मुद्दे हैं लेकिन स्पेसिफिकली दो मुद्दों पर मैं आज बोलने जा रहा हूं। सबसे पहला मुद्दा टैक्नीकल मुद्दा इकोनॉमिक कंडीशन ऑफ इंडियन इकॉनोमी के फिगर्स मैं आपके सामने पेश करूंगा और दूसरा मुद्दा रहेगा, discrimination and contradiction emerge and they affect the society. मेरा पहला मुद्दा सबसे महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है। चार चीजें बजट को गवर्न करती हैं।

बजट के चार इंडिकेटर्स हैं। इनमें से पहला इंडिकेटर है, ग्रोथ रेट आफ इंडस्ट्री। इसका प्रतिशत आप देखेंगे, पिछले साल यह 6.3 प्रतिशत था और इस साल यह 3.3 प्रतिशत है। बजट का दूसरा इंटिकेटर है - एक्सपोर्ट। हमारा एक्सपोर्ट 97 परसेंट नीचे गया है। पिछले साल यह 99.6 परसेंट था और इस बार 0.6 प्रतिशत है। बजट का तीसरा इंडिकेटर रेवेन्यु रिसीट है, जो टारगेट से 17 प्रतिशत शार्ट है। पिछले साल से फिसकल डैफिसिट 21 प्रतिशत इंन्क्रीज हुई है। कहने का मतलब यह है कि बजट के चारो इंडिकेटर्स नैगेटिव हैं। बजट के फेस में बजट की यह हालत है, तो इन्टरनल आप समझ सकते हैं। Industrial sector is the engine of the economy. जो फारन एक्सचेंज और इन्टरनेशनल क्रैडिबिलीटी डिसाइड करती है, वह भी नैगेटिव है। रिसीट टारगेट भी हमारा नहीं बढ़ा है। साल भर की एक्सरसाइज करके फिसकल डैफिसिट 21 प्रतिशत बढ़ी है। मैं खास तौर से एक बात सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं, मैंने पिछले तीनों बजट को पढ़ा है। पिछले तीन सालों में इन्डस्ट्रियल ग्रोथ 6.7 प्रतिशत से 3.3 प्रतिशत गई है। पिछले तीन सालों में फिसकल डैफिसिट 5.4 प्रतिशत से 5.7 प्रतिशत बढ़ गया है। इससे यह सिद्ध हो रहा है कि हम अपने वायदों से मुकर रहे हैं। हमारे वायदे टूट रहे हैं। यदि यही ट्रेंड चलता रहा, तो मुझे लगता है कि आने वाला समय हमें कभी भी माफ नहीं करेगा।

दूसरी बात, जो मैं कहना चाहता हूं, वह यह है कि कामन सोसायटी के ऊपर बजट का प्रभाव है। मैं डामैस्टिक सैक्टर की बात कहना चाहता हूं। कैरोसिन और एलपीजी की बात यहां पर उठायी गई है। वास्तव में यह सैसिटिव सैक्टर है। मैं ऐसा समझता हूं कि गरीबों के साथ इससे बड़ा खिलवाड़ कोई नहीं हो सकता है। हम इसे कभी भी बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकते हैं। पैट्रोल-डीजल के बारे में कहा गया कि दाम घटाए गए हैं। मेरे जैसा साधारण व्यक्ति कहना चाहता है कि पैट्रोल-डीजल के दाम घटाने की क्या जरूरत थी, वही दामों की रियायत यदि आपने कैरोसिन और एलपीजी पर दी होती, तो गरीबों को इतना रोने की कोई जरूरत नहीं थी। सरकार द्वारा एक अप्रैल से इसको डिकन्ट्रोल करने जा रही है। The process that you are adopting is very inefficient and it has been exposed in the Government. एलपीजी में आपने 20 रुपए कम किए हैं। मैं ऐसा मानता हूं, किसी को फांसी की सजा हुई। उसने अपील की, तो कहा गया कि फांसी की सजा माफ कर दो और उसे उम्र कैद की सजा दे दो। उम्र कैद की सजा देने से उसकी जिन्दगी तो बरबाद हो गई। मैं समझता हूं कि इसमें साजिश है और गरीबों का जीना मुश्किल कर दिया है। यह एक तरफा युद्ध है। गरीबों के हाथ में तलवार नहीं है, सरकार के हाथ में तलवार है। सरकार ने एक तरफा यह युद्ध छेड़ा है। मुझे दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि हमें इस युद्ध को रोकना पड़ेगा और सबसे पहले तलवार हमें इस संसद से उठानी होगी।

दूसरी बात, मैंने बजट को बड़े गौर से सुना है। मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि विदेशी दारु पर ड्युटी 210 प्रतिशत से 180 प्रतिशत होगी। इस पर सदन में बहुत तालियां बजाई गईं। दूसरी बात उन्होंने कही कि मोबाइल पर ड्युटी भी 16 प्रतिशत कम की जाएगी। एक तरफ कैरोसिन और एलपीजी के दाम बढ़ाए गए हैं और दूसरी तरफ विदेशी दारु और मोबाइल पर ड्युटी घटाई गई है। कहने का मतलब यह है कि गरीब और गरीब हो जाओ और अमीर सस्ते दामों पर एय्याशी करो। मतलब यह है कि कम से कम दाम में ज्यादा से ज्यादा मौज-मस्ती कर सकते हैं। यह सीधा इंडिकेशन इस बजट से आया है।

19.00 hrs.

मेरा एक ही सवाल है कि गरीब को क्या चाहिए - एड्स की, कैंसर की दवा चाहिए या उससे पहले रोटी, कपड़ा और मकान चाहिए। एड्स से तो वह एक बार मर जाएगा लेकिन अगर उसे रोटी, कपड़ा नहीं मिलेगा तो वह रोज मरेगा।

महोदय, मैं इस सदन के माननीय सदस्यों से पूछना चाहता हूं कि गरीब को मरते-मरते जीना चाहिए या जीते-जीते मरना चाहिए। मैं समझता हूं कि दिल दहलाने वाली बात है, पिछले साल फर्टीलाइज़र की सब्सिडी घटाने से मेरी कांस्टीट्यूएंसी में दस किसानों ने आत्महताया की। मैं समझता हूं कि हम यहां इस सदन में बैठे हैं, हम किसानों के लिए उत्तरदायी हैं। हमें उन्हें जवाब देना पड़ेगा। किसानों ने इसलिए आत्महत्या की, क्योंकि हमने पार्लियामेंट में बैठ कर फर्टीलाइज़ के रेट बढ़ा दिए। आप मुझे बताइए कि इस तरह का सिलसिला कब तक चलता रहेगा? इस बजट का मोर्चा यहां तक ही सीमित नहीं रहा, इस बजट में स्माल सेविंग पर इंटरस्ट घटा दिए। सरकारी कर्मचारियों पर सरचार्ज लगाया गया और टैक्स रिबेट घटाया गया। इतना ही नहीं, पोस्टल के रेट तक बढ़ाए गए।

महोदय, बड़ी इंटरस्टिंग बात है, 42 हजार कर्मचारी सरप्लस बताए गए। स्पीच के अंदर लिखा है कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के 42 हजार कर्मचारी सरप्लस हैं, इन्हें हम वीआरएस देने जा रहे हैं। मुझे बड़ा दुख हुआ, क्योंकि मैं एक इंजीनियर हूं। मैं भी आज से दस साल पहले नौकरी करता था, नौकरी में कितनी सुरक्षा होती है, यह मेरे से ज्यादा कोई नहीं जान सकता। एक चपड़ासी की नौकरी हो या कलेक्टर की हो, उसे सिक्योरिटी होती है। अगर अचानक उसकी नौकरी चली जाए तो वह कितना इनसिक्योर होता है। सुमन जी ने बोला कि इस गवर्नमेंट का एजेंडा था कि हम एक करोड़ एम्प्लॉयमेंट जेनरेट करेंगे और दूसरी तरफ बोल रहे हैं कि 42 हजार कर्मचारियों को हम वीआरएस देकर निकाल देंगे। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि प्लानिंग में कुछ गड़बड़ है। मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर बताना चाहूंगा कि अगर एक चपड़ासी दिल्ली के पार्लियामेंट में नौकरी करता होगा, उसके चार बच्चे होंगे और एक धर्म-पत्नी होगी, उसे सरप्लस बोल कर, वीआरएस देकर निकाल देंगे तो वह बेचारा मर जाएगा, आत्महत्या कर लेगा, क्योंकि उसके पास कोई चारा नहीं है। उसके बीबी, बच्चों को भीख मांगनी पड़ेगी। दुर्भाग्य है कि दिल्ली पुलिस ने भिखारियों पर भी बैन लगा रखा है, वे बेचारे आत्महत्या नहीं करेंगे तो कहां जाएंगे। मैं समझता हूं आप एंटी नेशनलिस्ट एक्टीविटी को और एंटी सोशल एक्टीविटी को बजट से बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं। क्या यह एनडीए का सुधार कार्यक्रम है, जो आप 42 हजार कर्मचारियों को निकाल रहे हैं। मैं आपको सजेशन देना चाहता हूं कि आपने जो रिटायरमेंट की उम्र 58 साल से बढ़ा कर 60 साल की है, उसे आप फिर से 58 साल कर दीजिए। अगर आपको वीआरएस देनी है तो सब को दीजिए। गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया में जितने कर्मचारी हैं, जो खुशी से वीआरएस लेना चाहते हैं, उन्हें आप वीआरएस दीजिए, लेकिन किसी को कम्पलशन मत करिए। आप उन्हें रिडिप्लॉय भी कर सकते हैं। आप सिक मिल्स की रिस्ट्रक्चरिंग कर सकते हैं। हम एक तरफ कर्मचारियों को निकालने की बात करते हैं और दूसरी तरफ खर्चों पर कंट्रोल नहीं कर सकते। मैं कल टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया पढ़ रहा था, उसमें यह था - "Minister's PA's taxi bill runs up to 11 lakhs." हम एक तरफ करटेलमेंट की बात करते हैं और दूसरी तरफ एक मिनिस्टर के पीए का चार महीने का टैक्सी का बिल 11 लाख 5,391 है। कई सवाल उठते हैं, अक्तूबर, 2001 से जनवरी, 2002 तक यह टैक्सी कहां-कहां घूमी। दिल्ली का पेरीफेरियल एरिया 20 से 25 किलोमीटर है। अगर वह पीए दिल्ली के बाहर जाता है तो फिर भी वह इतना कैसे घूमा, उसके बाहर जाने की सीमा कितनी है? मैं समझता हूं कि एक महीने में दो लाख 59 हजार का जो बिल है, इस पर यहां कई प्रश्न उठते हैं। उसने कितने ट्रिप लगाए होंगे, बाहर कहां गया होगा, किस लिए गया होगा, दिल्ली के बाहर टैक्सी किस लिए गई, ये सब सवाल उठते हैं। हम बात-बात पर अमेरिका की बड़ी तारीफ करते हैं, कोई भी बात हो, हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी तथा अन्य मंत्री अमेरिका की बहुत तारीफ करते हैं। मैं याद दिलाना चाहता हूं कि लास्ट वीक में एक आर्टीकल आया, जिसमें जार्ज़ बुश ने अपनी अमेरिकन इकोनोमी के बारे में बोला है।

अमरीका में ज्यादा रोजगार पैदा होना चाहिए - ऐसा एक सजेशन उन्होंने दिया है। एक तरफ हम अमरीका की बात करते हैं तो अपने यहां एम्प्लाएमेंट कर्टेलमेंट की बात ठीक नहीं है। हम बार-बार डब्ल्यूटीओ की बात करते हैं लेकिन स्वदेशी की बात कोई नहीं करता है। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी बहुत बुद्धिमान व्यक्ति हैं, आईएएस ऑफिसर हैं लेकिन पता नहीं उनकी क्या मजबूरी है और मुझे नहीं लगता है कि विदेशी संस्थाओं के दबाव में यह बजट बन रहा होगा।

मैंने रैवेन्यू प्राप्ति की बात की है। हमारी रैवेन्यू प्राप्ति 50 प्रतिशत है। उसको बढ़ाने के लिए मैंने बहुत से सुझाव दिये थे। मैंने कहा था कि इसमें जो डार्क-एरियाज हैं उनको हमें आइडेंटिफाई करना पड़ेगा। पिछले सालों में इस विभाग में सबसे ज्यादा भ्रट अधिकारी निकले हैं। रैवेन्यू कलैक्शन अगर आप ईमानदारी से करेंगे तो मिट्टी और डीजल के तेल के दाम बढ़ाने की आपको जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी। पिछले 50 सालों से हम वर्ल्ड-बैंक का कर्जा भरते आ रहे हैं। हमें ऐसा विकास नहीं चाहिए जिसमें हमारे ऊपर कर्ज बढ़ता जाए। मैं एनडीए सरकार का पार्ट हूं और मुझे वोटिंग के समय में इसके समर्थन में बटन दबाना पड़ेगा लेकिन इस सदन के माध्यम से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को मैं एक सजेशन देता हूं कि जो बजट है उसका रिव्यू करने के बाद ही इसे पास किया जाए। जय हिंद, जय भारत।

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE) : Sir, I rise to oppose the Budget for the year 2002-03 which has been presented in this august House by our Finance Minister.

First of all, I recall that when this Government came to power, at that time, it declared boastfully that India would be built by the Indians. I thought that they were ready to give a new orientation to the Indians. Now, in this Budget, it appears that they are not for the Indians; they are for the Indians who are not residing in India but they are for the Non-Resident Indians.

Our country may be called a country of poor people as the poor peasants, agricultural workers and small farmers are there. But I must say that our country is not a poor country. We have enormous potentialities. We have enormous assets. But this Budget is going to damage everything. In fact, it has declared a war on the common man. It is harming our self-reliant economy; our domestic industries and our country's agriculture. It could lead to more de-industrialization and more unemployment. It gives a body blow to the poor, the middle-class, to the farmers, to the workers, and even to the upper middle-class people also.

So, I oppose this Budget.

It seems that on the one hand, this Budget gives sops to the corporates, NRIs, multinational corporations and the foreign companies and on the other hand, it lashes the common man with taxes. This is the philosophy of the Budget. So, I strongly oppose this Budget.

It can easily be assumed that this Budget is the rampage of our Finance Minister, and is prescribed by the multinational corporations, the World Bank, the IMF and the WTO. At the time of assuming the power, they have said something, and now they are going in a different direction. What is the economic scenario of our country? It is said by many speakers here that the industrial situation is coming down; there is fall in agricultural production; there is stagnation in rural employment; there is recession in demand; and there is galloping increase in unemployed people. This Budget has failed to address these problems of our country.

Our country is leading almost towards the debt trap. The total debt as on 31st March, 2002 is estimated to be Rs.13,40,967 crore, which is more than 72 per cent of the GDP. The Budget Management Bill had recommended that the public debt should not exceed 50 per cent of the GDP. One-third of the Plan expenditure is proposed to meet the interest. This is the situation. Our country is gradually leading towards the trap, the debt trap. This Budget would enhance the debt trap. So, I oppose this Budget.

Many things have been said about the problems of *kisans.* It is claimed that the Government has come out at least to save the *kisans.* It is known to everyone. As far as our country is concerned, the chunk of the *kisans,* marginal farmers, and agricultural labourers were poor. This Budget does not address them. There are schemes like the *Kisan* Credit Cards, the Crop Insurance Programme and Self-Help Group Systems. But these are not for the poor peasants, agricultural workers and small farmers.

In old age, the landlords and land owners used to go the countryside and they used to offer some clothes and foodgrains to the poor people. There are so flatterers who say that these landlords are very great people. They claim that they are doing so much to the small and poor farmers, but this is not true.

Sir, suicide of peasants has become the order of the day in our country. There are plenty of grains in our granaries, but starvation deaths are continuing not only in Andhra Pradesh and other Southern States, but also in the State of Green Revolution, that is, Punjab. What is the cause for it? It is happening because of the debt problem faced by the farmers. Money lending is still very much powerful in the countryside. Much has been said about credit flow to the rural people? But what about credit flow to small farmers, tenants and to middle level farmers? As far as I know, as per the rules of the Reserve Bank of India, banks should lend a minimum of 18 per cent to the agricultural sector. But is it not a fact that not even a single bank is lending more than 15 per cent even today? What is the Government doing about it? Is there any scheme by which they can force the banks to lend at least 18 per cent to the agricultural sector, to the poor farmers, tenants and also the middle level farmers?

Sir, fertiliser price has been raised by five per cent in the Budget. Taking together with the hike in rail freight, the

increase in fertiliser price may go upto 10 per cent. This will endanger food security of our country. Then, there is a hint of withdrawing the Food Corporation of India from procurement of foodgrains. This would be exploited by big merchants and middlemen. In addition to this, the restrictions on storage, movement and selling of foodgrains and other agricultural commodities have been removed. This measure and the proposed deregulation of agricultural sector are not going to help the poor people.

Sir, removal of reservation on small-scale industries relating to various agricultural products, decentralisation of export of agricultural commodities are aimed at facilitating the penetration and entry of foreign companies into rural economy. This Budget, in the name of helping the farmers in our countryside, is only opening the floodgates for the entry of big capitalists into our agricultural sector. As a result of this, our farmers will be exploited by them and they will be at their mercy.

सभापति महोदय : अब एक मिनट में समाप्त किया जाए।

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : It is not possible. I am dealing with another point. There are so many words spoken in relation to the schemes. There is *Sampurana Rozgar Yojana*. There is Employment Assurance Scheme. There is Jawahar *Gram Samridhi Yojana* and now the proposed Jayaprakash *Rozgar Yojana*. They are planning that these *Yojanas* will have to eradicate the unemployment problem. I must say that these programmes do not solve the unemployment problem. It will help the middlemen. It will help the contractors. It will help the bureaucrats to control the money, the usurp and everything. All the unemployed youth and farmers will have to be at their mercy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you conclude.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Please allow me to deal with one more point about the National Highways. The Prime Minister has talked about the Highways. This is a very good thing. But so far as the construction of the National Highways is concerned, it is the most capital intensive. Lakhs and lakhs of poor people in the villages are not getting jobs. They are only watching the machinery. The machines are working there. But the unemployed poor people farmers and workers are sitting idle. So, it would not help them.

Since you are not allowing me to go further, I must say that this Budget will not help the poor people. This Budget will not even help the workers. Lakhs and lakhs of workers are being thrown out of their jobs. Is there any idea in your Budget to solve the problem? Disinvestment is galloping. You are even selling all sorts of assets. I am opposing this Budget. It is quite damaging. It is a declared war against the common man of our country. So, I oppose it tooth and nail.

डॉ. संजय पासवान (नवादा) : सभापति महोदय आपको मैं धन्यवाद देता हूं। मैं सबसे पहले इस बोल्ड बजट के लिए अपने ब्रेव वित्त मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने इस विकट काल में और विश्वव्यापी मंदी की स्थिति में जो साहसिक कदम उठाये हैं, निश्चित तौर से अटल जी की सरकार और इनका मंत्रालय प्रशंसा के पात्र हैं। सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि आजादी के बाद पहली बार देश के किसान, कृषि के क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले व्यक्ति की ओर इनका ध्यान गया है। परिस्थितियां चाहें जो भी रही हो, मगर यह शुभ संकेत है। देर से ही सही मगर दुरुस्त तरीके से किसानों के लिए और किस प्रकार से किसानों का योगदान देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में कारगर हो, कैसे उनकी भूमिका को सशक्त बनाया जाए, इसका प्रयास किया है। सही मायनों में उन्होंने जिन शब्दों का इस्तेमाल किया है - किसानों की आजादी, फ्रीडम टू दि फारमर्स, ये शब्द बड़े उचित है, ये बड़े सूटेबल वर्ड्स हैं। किसानों के लिए राज्यों में जो सुधार कार्य कृषि के संबंध में होंगे, पहली बार इन्सैन्टिव से लिंक किया गया है, इन्सैन्टिव से जोड़ा गया है।

सुधारों को इन्सेन्टिव से जोड़ा गया है कि जो राज्य जितना बेहतर ढंग से, जितनी तीव्रतम गति से कृषि में सुधार करेगा, कृषि उत्पादन की बिक्री में सुविधाजनक माहौल पैदा करेगा, उन्हें केन्द्र से उनका हिस्सा अधिक मिलेगा, प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा। यह निश्चित तौर से इस परिस्थिति में एक निर्भीक कदम मंत्री जी ने उठाया है। हम जानते हैं कि सच्ची बात कड़वी लगती है। यह बात सच है, हमारे विरोधियों को भी और कुछ सहयोगियों को भी बात थोड़ी कड़वी लगती है मगर देश की स्थिति में और दुनिया भर की स्थिति में अपने आपको एडजस्ट करने के लिए यह आवश्यकता है कि जो बुनियादी बदलाव चिन्तन में हो, वह सोच में भी होना चाहिए। इसलिए बजट में जो माइंडसैट बदलने पर ज़ोर दिया है, चाहे वह प्लैनर्स का हो, राजनेताओं का हो, देश की जनता का हो, अधिकारियों का हो, पॉलिसी मेकर्स का हो, उसको ओर उन्होंने जो ध्यान दिया है और प्रयास किया है, निश्चित तौर से यह काबिले-तारीफ है। इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ कि इन्होंने एक साहसिक कदम उठाया है।

साथ-साथ कृषि क्षेत्र में किसान भाइयों के लिए एक समय था कि उस तरफ डैफिसिट हुआ करता था, आज हम उस क्षेत्र में सरप्लस में हैं। जो खर्च स्टोरेज में हो रहा है, वह काफी अधिक राशि है। इससे कैसे निपटा जाए यह समस्या केवल सरकार की नहीं है, हम सबकी समस्या है, पूरे देश की समस्या है। उसके लिए मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि राज्य सरकार जितना तेजी से स्टोरेज, मार्केटिंग या विपणन की व्यवस्था को जितने अच्छे ढंग से लागू करेगी, उसके लिए जो प्रावधान किया है कि उन राज्यों के लिए विशेा तौर से एक राशि मुहैया कराई है, वह भी 15000 करोड़ रुपये की बड़ी राशि है। मुझे विश्वास है कि उनके इस कदम का राज्यों में लोग आज नहीं तो कल ज़रूर स्वागत करेंगे।

मंत्री जी ने कृषि बीमा के लिए जो स्कीम लागू की है, उसमें मैं समझता हूँ कि आज एक कनफ्यूजन की स्थिति है। कृषि मंत्रालय का और वित्त मंत्रालय का भी फसल बीमा योजना पर ज़ोर चलता है मगर उसके लिए अलग से जो निगम लाने की बात इन्होंने की है, उसका हम तहेदिल से स्वागत करते हैं। सिंचाई व्यवस्था के लिए जो तीव्रगामी सिंचाई लाभ कार्यक्रम के लिए 28 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया है, यह भी स्वागत योग्य है। पूंजी का जो प्रवाह है, इस क्षेत्र के लिए जो इन्होंने तय किया है, पिछले साल 64000 करोड़ था। इस साल जो लक्ष्य रखा गया है, 75000 करोड़ का रखा गया है। निश्चित तौर से यह राशि 11000 करोड़ रुपये की जो है, उससे जो खामियां कृषि के क्षेत्र में हैं, एक बार में नहीं लेकिन सुधार की ओर, नई दिशा की ओर बढ़ेंगे, ऐसी हमें उम्मीद है।

शिक्षा पर हमारे अटल जी की सरकार ने संविधान में 93वां संशोधन करके जो बुनियादी बदलाव किया और 6-14 साल के बच्चों के लिए फ्री और कंपलसरी एजुकेशन का प्रावधान किया, वह निश्चित तौर से क्रांतिकारी कदम था और उसको सपोर्ट करने के लिए वित्त मंत्री जी ने एक्सचैकर से 900 करोड़ रुपये का जो प्रावधान किया है, वह एक बड़ी राशि है और इससे क्रांतिकारी बदलाव आया।

सभापति महोदय, इससे जो गरीबों के बच्चे हैं, जो दलितों के बच्चे हैं, जो गांवों में रहने वाले लोगों के बच्चे हैं उन्हें सुविधा मिलने वाली है। इससे आने वाली कई पीढ़ियों को लाभ होगा। इसलिए इस कार्य के लिए जो प्रावधान किया है उसके लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं।

महोदय, तीसरी बात स्वास्थ्य की है। स्वास्थ्य के लिए पहली बार एक स्कीम जन-रक्षा की शुरू की गई है। इसके तहत गरीबों को लाभ मिलेगा। आज हम देखते हैं कि गरीबों को शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य में काफी परेशानी होती है। देश का जो आम आदमी है वह आज शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य के लिए बहुत चिन्तित है। वह अपना घर-द्वार बेचकर भी स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा के प्रति आश्वस्त नहीं हो पाता है और परेशान रहता है। इन्होंने जो स्कीम लागू की है जिसके तहत प्रति दिन एक रुपए देने से देश के आम लोगों के स्वास्थ्य की रक्षा की जा सकती है। यह निश्चित तौर पर जो इनकी सोच है उसके बहुत उच्च होने का प्रतीक है। योजना के अनुसार यदि एक रुपया प्रति दिन बचाने वाला भी कहीं बीमार हो जाए और हास्पीटलाइज हो जाए, तो उसके इलाज के लिए एक अच्छी खासी रकम 20 हजार रुपए की राशि इकट्ठी हो सकती है और दो हजार रुपए मिल सकते हैं। निश्चित तौर पर यह वंचित लोगों को लाभ की मिलने की योजना है।

सभापति महोदय, यह बात अलग है कि इन योजनाओं की डिलीवरी का जो मैकेनिज्म है, जो सुविधा पहुंचाने का रास्ता है, उसकी जो ईमानदारी, उसकी जो निठा है, जो प्रतिबद्धता है, वह सुनिश्चित हो, इसके लिए वे प्रयास करेंगे, लेकिन उसकी शुरूआत इन्होंने की है। यह इनीशिएटिव भी बहुत सराहनीय है।

महोदय, इसके साथ-साथ इन्होंने जो भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धति है उसकी तरफ भी ध्यान दिया है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन में कहना चाहूंगा कि जो इंडियन हीलिंग सिस्टम रहा है, वह बहुत असरकारक रहा है। जो एलोपैथी है जिसकी चर्चा बहुत की जाती है, लेकिन इसने विकार ज्यादा पैदा किया है, समाधान कम किया है। जो अपने देश का सिस्टम रहा है, जो पावर प्रोटैक्शन सिस्टम रहा है, जो हमारे देश में वैद्य लोग रहे हैं, वे बहुत गुणकारी एवं मुफीद दवा उपलब्ध कराते हैं। आज भी गांवों में ऐसे खानदान हैं, पीढ़ियां हैं, कई गांव के गांव ऐसे हैं जो आयुर्वेदिक पद्धति से कठिन से कठिन रोग का निदान करते हैं, जिनकी ओर इन्होंने ध्यान दिया है । विशेा रूप से और खासतौर से जो अपने देश का ट्रैडीशनल सिस्टम रहा है, इंडिजीनस सिस्टम रहा है, उसके लिए इन्होंने एक विशेा योजना तैयार की है। जो चिकित्सा पद्धिति और विधि अभी तक वंचित थी, जिसकी तरफ किसी ने ध्यान नहीं दिया था, उस पर ध्यान देकर कार्रवाई करने की जो योजना बनाई गई है, वह बहुत अच्छा प्र ायास है। इसका भी लाभ मिलेगा और साथ में नैशनल लैवल का एक आयुर्वेदिक अस्पताल खौलने की जो एक योजना बनाई है, उससे भी दिल्ली के लोगों को लाभ होगा जिस दिल्ली में सारे देश के लोग रहते हैं, उनको अपने तौर तरीके से चिकित्सा पद्धति का लाभ पहुंचाने का काम इन्होंने किया है। यह भी इनका सराहनीय कदम है।

सभापति महोदय, इसके बाद मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि शहरी विकास के संबंध में इन्होंने महत्वपूर्ण कार्य किया है। शहरों का जो विकास हो रहा है और जिस प्र ाकार से पापुलेशन में वृद्धि हो रही है, उसके बारे में उन्होंने अपने भााण में कहा था कि जो हमारे शहर हैं उनकी जनसंख्या अमरीका से भी ज्यादा हो गई है, उसको कैसे मैनेज करना चाहिए, कैसे अर्बन सुविधाओं को, अर्बन एमेनिटीज को बढ़ाना है, यह चिन्तन इन्होंने किया है, यह इन्होंने दर्शाया है। यह बड़ा मानवीय दृटिकोण है। इसके लिए इन्होंने दो फंड बनाए हैं-अर्बन रिफार्म्स इनीशिएटिव फंड जिसके लिए इन्होंने 500 करोड़ रुपए दिए हैं। निश्चित तौर पर इसमें हमारा स्वार्थ है। दिल्ली में जो बिहार से, बंगाल से, यू.पी. से और अन्य प्रदेशों से लोग आते हैं उन्हें बड़ी राहत मिलेगी। इस फंड से उन्हें बुनियादी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई जाएंगी। बिहारी होने के नाते मैं कह सकता हूं कि इससे हमें लाभ मिलेगा। इसके साथ-साथ इन्होंने एक सिटी चेलेंज फंड बनाया है। आज जो नए-नए सिटीज बन रहे हैं, जो नगरीय व्य वस्था बढ़ रही है, उससे समस्याएं पैदा हो रही हैं। इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए एक चेलेंज फंड बनाया गया है। यह उनके विजन का, उनके दृटिकोण का एक ि वस्तारीकरण है।

इसके साथ-साथ जो श्रमिक क्षेत्र है, जो लेबर सैक्टर है, उसकी बड़ी चर्चा है। उसके बारे में सबको चिंता हो रही है। आज हमें कबूल करना चाहिए कि हमारी सारे आफिसेस में, सारे संस्थानों में ओवर स्टॉफ है। हम यह मानते हैं और हमको बिना किसी दबाव में आये यह मानना चाहिए। जो काम सरकारी आफिस में 100 लोग करते हैं, वही काम निजी क्षेत्र में 10 लोग करते हैं। आज कौन सी ऐसी बातें हैं, कौन सी ताकत है ? हमें यह मानना चाहिए कि जो सरप्लस हैं, उनका समायोजन हो। उनके स्किल का अपग्रेड किया जाये। यह चिंता की बात है और हमें इसे करना चाहिए। हमारे आफिस में, सरकारी संस्थान में निश्चित तौर से ओवर स्टॉफ है। उनसे कैसे निपटा जाये, यह समस्या हमारे सामने है। हम आग्रह करना चाहेंगे कि जो सरप्लस हुए हैं, उनके स्किल का कैसे यूटीलाइज किया जाये, कैसे उनको अपग्रेड किया जाये ? उसके लिए अलग से एक फंड बने। उस फंड के मुताबिक कैसे रिइम्पलायमैंट हों, ये चिंता करना हमारा काम है। गवर्नमैंट को इसकी चिंता करनी चाहिए।

मंत्री जी ने महिलाओं और बच्चों के लिए भी एलोकेशन बढ़ाया है। अभी 8 मार्च, 2002 को सारी महिलाएं डिमांड कर रही थीं कि उनको 33 परसेंट आरक्षण मिलना चाहिए। मंत्री जी ने महिलाओं और बच्चों के लिए अपने बजट प्लान एलोकेशन में एग्जैक्ट 33 परसेंट एलोकेशन बढ़ाकर एक शुरुआत की है, एक संकेत दिया है कि आगे जब भी उनको मौका मिलेगा, वे महिलाओं के लिए जो उनका उचित प्रतिनिधित्व है, उसको पूरा करने का प्रयास करेंगे।

मंत्री जी ने पार्ट बी में टैक्सेशन के बारे में कहा है। मेरा कहना है कि ड्राईक्लीनिंग और ब्यूटी पार्लर का जो काम है, उन पर टैक्स लगाया है। किसी ने हमसे कहा है कि बड़ा जुल्म हो जायेगा। अब धोबी पर भी टैक्स लगेगा। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि आज ड्राईक्लीनिग का काम कोई धोबी नहीं करता। वह काम कोई और करता है। इसी तरह जो ब्यूटी पार्लर का काम है, वह कोई हज्जाम नहीं करता। उसे बड़े-बड़े लोग करते हैं। इन पर निश्चित रूप से टैक्स लगना चाहिए। इन्होंने जो टैक्स लगाया है, उसका हम स्वागत करते हैं।

आज स्मॉल स्केल इंडस्ट्री की जो स्थिति है, वह किसी से छुपी नहीं है। उसके सामने कुछ चुनौतियां हैं. उन चुनौतियों से कैसे निपटा जाये, यह एक समस्या है। डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. की व्यवस्था हो सकती है मगर जहां डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. की व्यवस्था नहीं है, कम्पलशन नहीं है, वहां पर अपने देश की जो उत्पादक वस्तुएं हैं, उन पर तमाम टैक्स लगाये जाते हैं। जैसे एक्साइज टैक्स है, सेल्सटैक्स है, एंट्री टैक्स है। हम चाहते हैं कि जो इम्पोर्टेट गुड्स हैं, उन पर भी एक्साइज टैक्स ही न लगाकर सेल्स टैक्स भी लगाना चाहिए। उन पर सी.वी.डी. लगे, यह हम प्रयास करते हैं।

इसके बाद इन्होंने जो सबसे बड़ा काम किया है, उसके लिए बिहार के लोग इनका आभार व्यक्त करते हैं। हालांकि अब ये बिहार में नहीं रहे, झारखंड के हैं। इन्होंने श्री जय प्रकाश के नाम पर जो रोजगार शुरू किया है, निश्चित तौर से बहुत शानदार शुरुआत की है। उन्होंने कहा है कि हम तमाम पिछड़े इलाकों में इस योजना को लागू करेंगे, उसके लिए मैं मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा।

मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि इन्हीं के मंत्रालय ने श्री ई.ए.एस. सरमा, जो इनके सैक्रेट्री हुआ करते थे, उनकी अध्यक्षता में देश के सर्वाधिक 100 बैकवर्ड जिलों की पहचान की है।

उसमें संयोग से बिहार के 32 जिले हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि जयप्रकाश जी के नाम जो योजना शुरू की गई है, उसके लिए भूमि उपलब्ध है। इसके अलावा शर्मा कमेटी ने जो अनुशंसा की है, यदि उन सौ जिलों में इस योजना को सबसे पहले शुरू किया जाएगा तो बहुत कृपा होगी।

हम बजट का समर्थन करते हुए और मंत्री जी की प्रशंसा करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करते हैं।

***SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN (DINDIGUL):** Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I would like to put forth certain views on the Union

Budget for the year 2002-03 on behalf of my party All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. The economic restructuring that is going on for the past 10 years has failed to yield the desired result. We have come to a phase wherein we have to go in for the second stage of reforms.

Our economic growth rate has slowed down due to several factors. Though the indices would suggest that there is scope for recovery it is neither adequate nor satisfactory. His Excellency the President of India in his Address to the Parliament indicated the same. At a time when we expected the growth rate to rise from 5.7% to 6% it nose dived to 2.1%. I strongly feel that this is the appropriate moment to reconsider our options and analyse whether we have to change our approach.

The administrative machinery to implement various rural development schemes and social welfare schemes vest with the State Governments all over the country. The Union Government's plans and actions are translated into action by the State Governments. But at the same time we find various State Governments fending for funds not having enough even to pay the monthly salary to their employees. This is due to the step motherly treatment by the Centre.

Our first Budget was prepared for about 197 crore of rupees. Now our total Budget is prepared for a huge sum well beyond 2 lakh and 65 thousand crore of rupees. In the beginning we did not have any foreign debt. In the fifties it was about 2%. Now it has gone upto 8% and above.

Several public sector units were set up as national assets through the loan we obtained from the foreign countries. Now for the past 10 years not much of increase in public sector units. But still our external debt touches almost 10% in the total outlay of our Budget. This is a huge amount. This Budget lays stress on

reducing the non-planned expenditure. This Budget insists on bringing down the administrative expenses. This Budget also emphasises the need to make our products competitive in the international market. The Budget honestly accepts the ground reality like the economic slowdown and industrial stagnation. Stringent restructuring measures are insisted upon. At a time when the ground reality was grim the Government has not widened the tax net and has not come with many taxes as feared. Just because the Budget did not contain too many severe measures our leader and our Chief Minister revolutionary leader Dr Jayalalitha appreciated the Budget.

At the same time kerosene price rise, cooking gas price increase, postal tariff enhancement, withdrawal of subsidy to urea and other fertilisers are there in the Budget. These proposals would hit hard the poor and the farmers. Our leader has pointed out that these measures would affect the common man. You have now reduced by half the LPG cylinder price rise. The price of petrol and diesel has come down a bit. We would welcome these steps by this Government led by our Prime Minister Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee.

On one hand you reduced the price of petrol, on the other hand you increased the price of kerosene. The earlier Government in Tamil Nadu did not increase the price of kerosene when it was announced by the Union Government. Because of the increase effected now, the present Government in Tamil Nadu has to bear the brunt carrying the double burden. This price rise pertaining to kerosene especially would affect both the people and the Government of Tamil Nadu. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to rescind this move that will affect the poor mostly.

Petrol and diesel price were increased at least twice in the past 3 years and now a token reduction in their price has been announced. I would like to impress upon this Government that the cooking gas problem must be solved once and for all with a long-term perspective.

I would like to point out that the buying capacity of the middle class and the poor has weakened. The statistics that are rolled out to say that per capita income has increased could be a mirage. The tall claim that inflation has come down also proves this point. I would expect the hon. Finance Minister to explain the steps that are being taken to enhance the buying power of the poor and the middle class. Citing the WTO agreement the western world insists upon Labour standards in the developing world but do those western corporates pay the same wages they pay to their employees in their countries when they set up their industrial units in developing countries like India?

Let us analyse the units that have come up with foreign investment in the past one decade. Soft drinks, confectionaries, manufacturing of eatables like chips, have been taken over by these foreign units thereby greatly affecting this business going on in this country in the small-scale sector. When our industrial growth has slowed down how do you think the additional loan facility to the small-scale sector would benefit them when they are mostly dependent as ancillary units to bigger industrial units.

In the last 10 years the price of fertilisers like urea has increased almost five fold. Irrigation schemes have not been taken up widely and uniformly. The price rise has hit the farmers. The prices of agricultural inputs have also become dearer. The announcement by the Government that the funds for cooperative lending would be increased may not cut ice. This may only add up to the loan burden our agriculturists already have. Hence I urge upon the

Union Government to go in for an exclusive exim policy for agricultural products taking into consideration the factors like agricultural productivity, production, procurement, price fixation and marketing potential.

Even now the agricultural subsidy available to the farmers in the American and European countries surpasses the subsidy that is provided to our farmers in India. But what is happening here now? Even the little that was available is being withdrawn. Our agro-economy would be severely affected by the withdrawal of these subsidies. We can increase our agricultural production by way of roping in modern agro technology, viable techniques based on research and technology suited to our country. The storage facility and processing facility is not adequate for handling our agricultural products like even food grain. It is distressing to note that every year we accrue a loss to the tune of Rs 70 thousand crore.

We have several issues pending and waiting to be taken up with the WTO in the next round of talks as regards to our increasing the export of agro products, spices and rare herbs from our country. Without attending to the basic problems of our farmers you have announced the setting up of a separate insurance corporation for them. I am rather sceptical about the move.

Our country is the second biggest in the world in garment manufacture. I find this year's Union Budget is not extending adequate incentive to this sector that may contribute to its growth further.

We have processing industrial units like dyeing and printing in my Dindigul constituency and in the neighbouring districts. These units contribute to the garment industry. This year's Budget lays its hand heavily on these processing units which would affect several thousand weavers and weaving unit workers. I urge upon the Union Government to withdraw this tax on processing units. Likewise, you have announced an excise duty to the tune of about 9.2% on spindle yarn. This would affect the handloom weaving sector. This also needs to be withdrawn.

When it comes to power sector reforms we need to concentrate on avoiding power loss in transmission, in distribution and be vigilant to curb power theft. Instead the Union Government is taking up only the supply of electricity provided to the farmers. Ours is an agricultural country and our ignoring the farmers from getting power at subsidised rates will only do us harm.

Our Finance Minister lays stress on ushering in third revolution in the agricultural sector. This has been spelt out as an avowed policy of the Government in the Presidential Address. But to the contrary we are withdrawing even the little subsidies that were benefiting the farmers. Likewise, we do not find adequate fund allocation to ensure proper road links in our rural areas. For the past one year this work has come to a standstill in Tamil Nadu because of the non-release of funds by the Centre. Wider uniform growth would be possible only when the Centre takes care to release funds to the States in time for the ongoing projects especially in rural areas.

Our Finance Minister has reduced by 8% the corporate tax levied on the foreign investors. At the same time he must ensure that adequate measures to give incentives to our industrial and agricultural sectors to help them achieve 8% growth rate in our GDP.

India is fifth among the fast growing economies of the world and stood at 12^{th} in industrial growth. This was largely due to the already existing industrial units most of them being public sector industrial units. Hence I would like to sound a word of caution about disinvestments and privatising the temples of modern India.

Government has not come out with adequate employment generation measures. The number of jobs is reduced and people are sent home. Liberal permission is accorded to the private sector also to retrench and to reduce jobs. It is not very clear as to how the Government would be able to give a hope instil confidence in the minds of youth of the country.

Delegation and distribution of administrative power, enhanced social welfare measures, committed employment generation schemes are needed throughout the country. In order to ensure this we may have to convene the National Development Council which would be a forum to have an exchange of view between the Centre and the States. Like a bounced back tigress our leader Dr Jayalalitha has taken over again as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu with a vision and mission to make Tamil Nadu a leading State in the country. The Centre must ensure cordial relations with the States that have perspective plans.

During this discussion our Finance Minister has intervened to say that Sethu Samudram project would be taken up. I heartily thank him for this. At the same time I would like to point out a mere 4.2 crore of rupees has been allocated so far for the project that has a layout of about Rs 1860 crore. No budgetary allocation has been made for the Sethu Samudram project this year. The completion of this project would help our economy by bringing down the sea route distance by about 400 kms. There could be considerable saving to our economy paving way for the growth of our economy. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to allocate adequate funds to ensure the early completion of this project.

Eastern coast road scheme at a cost of Rs 142 crore has been kept pending. This scheme on completion would link the ports and harbours in the eastern coast especially all the ports in Tamil Nadu. The Union Government must take up this project also along with the ongoing road projects.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has taken with the Centre to construct a second international airport terminal in Chennai. To ensure surge in our economy Centre may heed to our demand and apportion enough funds for this project to connect effectively the East Asian destinations.

The Madurai Municipal Corporation has evolved a plan to lay a 27 km long ring road which would cover some areas of my constituency too. The Madurai Corporation has taken up with the Centre to waive Rs 15 crore of tax that it may have to pay to the Centre to ensure the completion of this project.

Centre is yet to release about Rs 49 crore to Tamil Nadu Government for its active participation in the National Malaria Eradication project. We should be rewarded for our enthusiasm and the Union Government's share must be released immediately.

MTNL is functioning in both Mumbai and Delhi. Chennai Telephone Circle may also have MTNL and I urge upon the Union Government to take needed steps in this regard.

In my Dindigul constituency there are many tannery units earning much needed foreign exchange for the country. It provides job to several thousand people. The Centre must set up an effluent unit to ensure pollution control. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to take effective steps to ensure the industrial units continue to function there.

Western Ghats Hills development scheme may be provided with additional central funds to provide hill road links between Kodaikanal, Dindigul and Sirumalai. This investment would go a long way to give a facelift to the tourism potential and we may ensure tourism development.

Under the urban development schemes Dindigul, Palani, Kodaikanal may be taken up to improve them as model towns. For this and to provide for the urban development schemes taken up by the Thirunelveli Municipal Corporation the Centre may allocate more funds.

The erstwhile Government in Tamil Nadu has taken a loan of Rs 169 crore from the Centre and it's a burden on us now. In the same fashion as such loans were waived by the Centre in the case of Punjab and Andhra Pradesh the Centre may waive the loans considering the plight of the State now.

I would like to impress upon the centre that Tamil Nadu's share in rural sanitation schemes may be enhanced. Under Prime Minister's rural roads development scheme States like Bihar which do not have road network get more funds. But a State like Tamil Nadu which has a well laid road network must be provided with adequate funds for its maintenance. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to make additional allocation.

Sometime back the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and the Union Commerce Minister laid the foundation stone for an export processing zone at Nanguneri in the deep south without ensuring fund allocation for the same. I urge upon the Union Government to take up this and provide funds to ensure industrial growth there.

At the instance of the centre foundation stone was laid for the projects to desilt the age-old river systems like Thamirabarani and Vaigai. The Centre has not allocated funds for this and I urge upon you to take up these schemes to give an impetus to irrigation.

I would like to bring to your notice that Tamil Nadu is always ignored both in the Railway Budget and in the Union General Budget. It is needless to mention that the Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to wipe out terrorism including the cross border terrorism at the hands of extremists like LTTE. There is a need to modernise the police force in Tamil Nadu. The Centre is aware of this and that is why they have enacted POTO. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to set apart adequate funds for this.

With this I conclude thanking the Chair for the opportunity given to me to speak on the Union Budget for the year 2002-03.

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*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, before you call the next speaker, I would like to make a submission. It has been decided both in the BAC as well as in a meeting with the hon. Deputy-Speaker that in the case of the debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, the General Budget and on the Railway Budget either there should be a clear understanding as to what has been the time allotted for the respective parties, both of the NDA as well as of the Opposition, or there should be an intimation as to how long the proceedings of the House would continue. That would help us understand as to how much time has been given to us and accordingly

we would be able to field our speakers and the Treasury Benches would also field their speakers. But now it appears to me that no time has been fixed. We are just continuing like this. So, it is becoming difficult for me to give proportionate justice to my Party Members, who have equal right to take part in the debate, without having known any fixed time.

Sir, I would like to request you that for today let the debate be continued for one more hour and then tomorrow allocation of the pending time amongst various parties should be finalised. After calculating as to how much time has been consumed by respective parties, it could be decided how much more time each party and group would get.

Sir, our Party has 112 Members in this House and if the turn of our third speaker comes at around 10 o'clock and then you just go back home without having an opportunity to speak on that day, then there is no meaning of the business. I want this kind of a justice to be done. The Government will respond to this. They also agreed to this. Either proportionate time should be given to the parties or the time should be fixed. Otherwise, the Whips of the Parties are in difficulty. It is not against any individual Member or Party. This is just to regulate the business of the House in a better way.

श्रीमती श्यामा सिंह (औरंगाबाद, बिहार) : 112 आदमी क्या कोई मायने नहीं रखते हैं? हम काफी समय से बैठे रहते हैं और हम लोगों को मौका नहीं मिलता।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोा कुमार गंगवार) : आप सभी पार्टीज का समय निर्धारित कर दीजिए ताकि सबको पता लग जाये कि किसको कितना बोलना है तभी ठीक रहेगा।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय : सभी पार्टीज का समय निर्धारित है। सभी पार्टीज के लोग अपने समय का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। उसमें किसी के साथ कोई कोताही नहीं होती। छोटी पार्टी को कुछ मौका दिया जाता है और 12 घंटे की डिबेट निश्चित हुई है।â€¦ (व्यवधान)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I feel for the Members belonging to the NDA also. You decide about the time for the parties so that I am able to restrict my speakers. But nothing is known...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : These parties are participating in this debate only. They do not bring up national issues or force adjournments of the House. They do not do any such thing. The bigger parties take so much time during the Zero Hour...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Shri Pandian, I am not accusing any Member. What I am trying to say is that if the time is known then we can regulate the parties...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : The bigger parties consume more time.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Adjournments and Zero Hour are not considered part of any debate. That is the right of every Member to raise an issue during the Zero Hour...(*Interruptions*) You were the former Speaker of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : You talk on all issues. But here they only participate in the debates...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : This is not fair...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : We do not force any adjournments. We do not force the House to adjourn. We want the House to run. We have not blocked any discussion...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The time should be knownâ€¦ (*Interruptions*)इसमें गलत क्या है? â€¦ (व्यवधान)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : We have not blocked any discussion. We have not wasted any time of the House...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Shri Pandian, why are you taking it upon yourself. I am addressing the Chair...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : The House did not run for so many days...(*Interruptions*)

सभापति महोदय : सभी पार्टीज का समय सुनिश्चित है। जो पार्टी के चीफ व्हिप समय जानना चाहें, वे टेबल पर से समय जान सकते हैं और उसी के मुताबिक अपने मैम्बर को नियंत्रित करने के लिए अपने मैम्बर को भी समय की जानकारी दे सकते हैं।

20.00 hrs.

यह विवाद का विाय नहीं है। इस समय आठ बज रहे हैं, यदि सभा की सहमति हो, तो एक घन्टे का समय बढ़ा दिया जाए। â€¦ (व्यवधान)

SHRI SURESH KURUP (KOTTAYAM): Sir, let us sit tomorrow and continue the discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (IDUKKI): The Finance Minister looks very tired. The whole day he was sitting in Rajya Sabha listening to the debate.

सभापति महोदय : बजट पर 12 घन्टे चर्चा होनी है, पांच घन्टे हो चुके हैं। यदि एक घन्टे का समय बढ़ा दिया जाए, तो छः घन्टे की चर्चा आज हो जाएगी, नहीं तो कल फिर देर रात तक बैठना होगा।

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : If Members want to speak, we can extend the time by one hour.

सभापति महोदय : सभा की सहमति है कि एक घन्टे का समय बढ़ा दिया जाए।

श्री आदि शंकर .

SHRI ADHI SANKAR (CUDDALORE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the DMK party I rise to support the Budget, which is realistic and growth-oriented. This is a moderate and pro-reform Budget and it would give a boost to farm production and agricultural operations.

In spite of many problems and barriers, the present Government under the able leadership of the hon. Prime Minister has achieved many remarkable things on the economy front. Nevertheless, it has to achieve many more successes in the years to come. Indian economy is enjoying the lowest rate of inflation of 1.1 per cent which is good for the producers and consumers. I welcome some of the schemes announced in the Budget like, 'Education for All − *Sarvasiksha Abhiyan*', 'Good Health − *Janaraksha*', and so on. It is heartening to note that there will be a rollback of the price of LPG which is highly appreciable. Here I would request the Finance Minister to reconsider the rise in price of kerosene and reduce that also.

Due to the encouragement given by Government to agriculture, there is a surplus of foodgrains in India. Food stocks have increased to almost 60 million tonnes. Many schemes have been launched by the Government for development of rural infrastructure. Keeping in view the security scenario, hon. Finance Minister has imposed a five per cent surcharge on income-tax, replacing the two per cent surcharge imposed last year consequent upon the devastation caused by earthquake last year in Gujarat. This year, another tragedy had struck Gujarat. The Central and the State Governments should pay more attention to relief and rehabilitation of the riot-affected persons. We welcome the reduction of prices of petrol and diesel which would help the transport sector.

Hundreds of cities and towns in the country have been recognised as engines of growth, but they require provision of a lot of civic amenities like water, sewerage, electricity, housing, transport, healthcare, etc. In the Budget, the Finance Minister has proposed three incentive funds − Urban Reform Incentive Fund (URIF), City Challenge Fund, and Pooled Finance Development Scheme. Since the details of these schemes are yet to be worked out, I would request the Government to constitute Monitoring Committees for each city and nominate public representatives including Members of Parliament to such Committees.

The Government hopes to garner an additional revenue of Rs.6,000 crore through direct taxes. It includes an amount of Rs.2,750 crore on account of the five per cent surcharge that is imposed. On excise, he is expected to get an additional revenue of Rs.6,700 crore. On the customs side the reduction in revenue this year is expected to be Rs.2,200 crore.

The hon. Finance Minister also made a mention of contributory pension scheme for the new Government employees for which the scheme would be worked out during the course of the year. Before finalising the scheme, the Government should consult all the trade union representatives so that it has got the consensus of the employees.

An amount of Rs.1650 crore has been allotted for universalisation of elementary education. The Government has made special focus on girls and children belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and urban slum dwellers. In Tamil Nadu, we have reached almost 100 per cent literacy in almost all districts; the credit goes to Dr. Kalaignar, the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, who made special emphasis on primary education along with mid-day meal scheme and also other schemes.

To provide employment guarantee to the jobless in the most backward districts, the Government has launched a new programme called, Jai Prakash Rozgar Guarantee Yojana. There is one more scheme called Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana, launched by the hon. Prime Minister in September 2001 by merging the existing Employment Assurance Scheme and the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana. So far, so many employment schemes have been announced by the Government, but the ground result is not encouraging. It is not going to the ground level also. Day by day, the number of unemployed youths is increasing. The Government should monitor each and every such scheme and to see how effectively those schemes can be implemented so that maximum number of youths, educated and uneducated get either self-employment or earn some wages and create durable community,

social and economic assets in the countryside.

The Department of Disinvestment has started literally disinvesting every public sector undertaking whether it is in good health and earning profit or not. Already disinvestments in some public undertakings have been made but the transfer of management and control of the undertakings, issues relating to employees are to be appropriately addressed in terms and conditions of sale, in consultation with all concerned including the employees representatives. Salem Steel Plant is one such example where the fate of the workers is not properly taken care of.

Madras Fertilisers Limited which is located in North Madras is a public sector fertiliser plant producing Vijay Brand of complex fertilisers which are widely used in the States of Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. In the past 30 years, the MFL has supplied over 22 million metric tonnes of fertilisers in the agricultural sector. They have sent proposals for assistance and capital restructuring and implementation of Tariff Commission Report on complex fertiliser. They have requested for waiver of outstanding interest of Rs.100 crore on the loans availed by MFL from the Government. They have asked for conversion of Rs.50 crore from the balance loan amount, into five per cent non-cumulative preference capital. They have also requested for early implementation of the Tariff Committee Report on PCS on complex fertilisers.

The most important point is this. The Government has a proposal to make disinvestment of Neyveli Lignite Corporation. This undertaking which is under the Ministry of Coal, is running most efficiently for the last 25 years. It is a unique undertaking generating power from lignite coal, with an integrated project of coal mining and power generation. It has earned profit of Rs.4514 crore and its profit last year was R.725 crore. During this year, it has earned a profit of Rs.950 crore as of now. Moreover, electricity that is generated through their power stations are sold to the Governments in the southern region, namely to the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh at a very cheap rate, at Rs.1.65 and to the State of Tamil Nadu at Re.1, whereas power generated from the private sector is sold at Rs.4.50 to Rs.5.50. So, if NLC is privatised then the economy of all the southern States would be affected.

Apart from this, this Corporation is also engaged in social activities and is catering to power requirements of southern region, mostly as service-oriented organisation.

I would, therefore, plead with the Government not to make any efforts to disturb the structural arrangement of this undertaking as that would unnecessarily create trouble not only in the power sector but also would affect the entire economy.

Hon. Finance Minister has given due importance to agriculture and rural development. Agriculture is the backbone of our Indian economy. The Budget would usher in a third revolution of agricultural diversification and food processing. The concept of freedom to farmers is highly commendable. Farmers also get freedom to export without middlemen. The Central Government must encourage the State Governments to organise 'Farmers' Market' following the model 'Uzhavar Chanthai', the farmers' market organised by the former hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar. It is heartening to know that Rs.70 crore has been allotted to credit linked subsidy scheme for construction of cold storage. Cold storage may be set up near Farmers' Markets. The Government must take adequate steps to enlighten the farmers about their freedom and the new opportunities. The fruits of the reforms envisaged in this Budget must reach the farmers.

20.11 hrs (Shri P.H. Pandian *in the Chair*)

Tourism is a silent but successful industry. It can generate more employment and foreign exchange. It is commendable that the plan outlay for tourism has been increased by 50 per cent to Rs.225 crore for 2002-2003. Tourism industry needs more support from the Government. More funds may be allotted towards it.

Tamil Nadu is one of the pioneer States in implementing population control measures and, therefore, to give incentives to such States, additional allocation of funds under the Centrally sponsored schemes could be linked to the performance of family welfare measures.

Chennai, metropolitan city is also developing leaps and bounds and, therefore, the City Corporation or the State Government alone cannot help finance adequately for the healthy growth of the city with all infrastructural requirements. Out youth leader, Thiru M.K. Stalin, as the Mayor of the Chennai City Corporation is doing a lot, right from construction of flyovers to providing drinking water and schooling and primary health centres. Sir, you may be aware that Chennai city is facing acute shortage of drinking water and people are forced to stand in long queue for hours together to collect water provided by Metro Water. I would urge upon the Government to allocate some special funds for accelerating the drinking water programme of Chennai city so that the people of this mega city could get some relief at least during this summer.

Ennore Port has been developed for warehousing and berth. But still many works are pending and need to be expedited by allocating more funds.

Similarly, Chennai city, especially North Chennai and my constituency Cuddalore are suffering from sea-erosion and every year a large part of the area is being reduced due to sea erosion. So much so, the main road connecting Ennore Port is also affected by it. Special schemes should be drawn with adequate funds to control sea erosion.

Tamil Nadu State is abound with lot of tourist places, temple tourism, resort tourism, adventure tourism and so on. From Chennai to Kanyakumari, one tourism circuit can be identified and developed to attract international tourists and also domestic tourists.

I now come to small savings and interest rates. It is unfortunate to find that the rate of interest on GPF is reduced year-by-year which puts a lot of loss on the working class. Even though in the Budget we find 15 per cent discount on depreciation of new machinery and additional income tax discount for foreign investment companies, yet there is no concession for large-scale industries. At the same time the NRI investors are attracted by this Budget. This attraction is due to the fact that there is no necessity to get the NOC, that is the No Objection Certificate, while purchasing or selling the immovable properties.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (NAGALAND): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for this opportunity. While opposing this Budget, first of all, I would like to point out the statement made by the hon. Finance Minister to increase the allocation from Rs.3457 crore to Rs.5014 crore for the next year for the North-East Special Pool which was created after the announcement of the Prime Minister of India in the year 1998. Now, if you look at the Budget allocation of various Ministries, it seems no justice has been done. It is because when the Prime Minister made the statement in the North-East, he said that every year 10 per cent of the budgeted amount of various Ministries and Departments would be allocated and kept as a Non-lapseable Central Pool. Five years have already passed since 1998 and it appears that no justice has been done. It is because if you look at the year 1999-2000, we find that the Finance Minister has announced Rs.93 crore for the Prime Minister's Central Pool. When we went to the Planning Commission, we were told that it has now been increased to Rs.124 crore. If you combine 10 per cent allocation of all the Ministries, it should not be less than Rs.10,000 crore. Since some difficulties were expressed by the Government of India that eight Ministries cannot be considered for 10 per cent cut, we agreed to that. But even if you take out every year 10 per cent of the budgeted amount of rest of the Ministries, it should not be less than Rs.5000 crore per annum. Therefore, taking the amounts for the years 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03, we should have augmented approximately Rs.25,000 crore.

In this connection, I would like to say that whatever commitment was given by the Prime Minister to the people of the North-East, should be adhered to both in letter and spirit. But it seems that the Central Government has gone back and this commitment has become a farce to the people of the North-East.

Sir, previous Prime Ministers had also made some commitments. When Shri Deve Gowda was the Prime Minister, he announced that the North-East shall have a Special Economic Package amounting to Rs.6100 crore. Later on, when Shri I.K. Gujral became the Prime Minister, he said that there would be a special package of Rs.7300 crore. Today, we will take NDA Government's commitment. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee made the announcement that a 10 per cent cut will be kept aside as a special package for the North-East. We are struggling with only Rs.5014 crore till today. I would like to suggest that if this can be worked out, the money should be used for infrastructure development in the North-East. So, I would like to say that there is a need for some introspection in this regard. This money should be kept aside and spent in a transparent manner. Therefore, every scheme and project where this money is being utilised should be told to the people. The money should be allocated to the States for infrastructure development.

Then, there is one financial institution which was created during Dr. Manmohan Singh's tenure called, the North-East Financial Development Corporation. It is situated in Guwahati. Sir, I believe that the interest rate is extremely high. It was created to give incentive to the people who want to take up projects and schemes. But the lending rate is kept at 16 to 18 per cent. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that it should be brought down to 12 per cent so that everybody can take up projects and schemes and take money from this institution.

Sir, I would like to point out that in the north-east, a lot of schemes and projects have been taken up. Some of the projects have been going on for more than ten to fifteen years. What happens is that the money which is allocated in the first instance is so meagre that a project can hardly be started. Even in the following year there will again be a small amount of allocation whereby the time gets stretched for a long time; there will be overhead expenses and escalation in various items. Therefore, we find that in this way many projects and schemes have got bogged down. I would request the Finance Minister to see to it that this money which has been kept aside from the Prime Minister's ten per cent non-lapseable fund is utilised to complete these projects.

For instance, the Assam Gas Cracker project which was started about ten years back is still getting staggered. I do not think we will ever be able to take it up at the rate at which allocations are being made. There are other schemes also which have been taken up but are lying without completion. Railway projects are an example.

I would like to go back to a very important project which was given by Smt. Indira Gandhi during her peace talks with the Naga Underground people. She asked them to come overground and she would give them a project so that they can sustain themselves. The State Government has then started this project, in collaboration with the Hindustan Paper and Pulp Corporation. But, due to various other problems this is getting bogged down. The Central Government has been requested to give a special package to revive this project. But till today no such package is forthcoming. I would request that the Government of India should give some special financial package to revive this project, so that people who have accepted to come to the mainstream after being promised by the Central Government, will get this viable unit and they will be able to get sufficient income for themselves. In the following financial year I would like that a special package may be made out for the Nagaland Pulp and Paper Mill.

There is another Nagaland Forest Product Ltd. at Tizit which is a very viable unit. For lack of funds from the Central Government this project also is getting bogged down. Therefore, I would request the Ministry of Finance to give a special package so that it will be modernised and value addition could be made and then it could be revived.

I would like to point out that in the telecom sector unfortunately the entire north-east has fallen into darkness in respect of introduction of cellular telephones. But my friend Shri Kirit Somaiya has made a very boasting remark about the telecom sector. Recently, I checked up with the Ministry and they informed me that the Defence Ministry is putting objections. I had recently put a question in the Parliament which read as follows:

> "Whether it is a fact that cellular phone service has been introduced only in Guwahati and Shillong in the North-east."

The reply I got from the Minister read as follows:

> "The Assam Telecom circle and the North-east States have been denied from giving this service on security consideration."

If that is so, then are Guwahati and Shillong not in the north-east? The problem here is not with the north-east. There are certain business houses which have tendered for it and they have found that wherever there is no lucrative business they can back out. They have taken up only the creamy layers. For instance, in Chattisgarh they have opted only for Raipur whereas there are 200 other village included in their tender . It is only because Raipur is a big city. In villages even if they put their establishment they know that they will run into losses. So, they have backed out. I am a member of the Standing Committee on Information Technology. I have cross-examined the officers and they say that it is Reliance group which has tendered for it and has backed out. In the case of north-east they have tendered for the whole area but they have taken only Shillong and Guwahati.

Now, they said that it is due to security reason. So, I took it up personally and contacted various officers in the Ministry and the field officers serving in the Defence Ministry. Now, the first security perception can be taken only from the Corps Commander serving in the field. I contacted the Corps Commander and asked whether at any time, the Ministry of Defence contacted him or not on security perception. They said 'no'. Then, I contacted the Eastern Command and asked whether the Defence Ministry had contacted on security perception. They said 'no'. Now, the present Minister, Shri Pramod Mahajan is very keen to introduce cellular phones in the North-East. It appears that this is a play up by the business houses. They could take two big cities and leave up the entire North-East saying that the Defence Ministry does not agree to it because of the security perception. This is all play up. If this country is going to be run under the influence of some business houses, then I am afraid that you cannot get much from this Government. Therefore, I would request the Minister of Finance to tell the Defence Ministry that this security perception has been falsely given by the Ministry of Defence. They have got influence in the Ministry also. This telecom sector has been put in the North-East including the cellular phones or the VPT.

Now, there is a problem in the village telephones also. They have to use cordless telephones which is called the Wireless In Local Loop. They have already set up sub-stations and have given telephones to the villages. But because of the frequency wave which has not been provided by the Defence Ministry and appropriate authority, they are not able to utilise it. If this is the situation, then the common people will not be able to use the telephones. And if they cannot use the telephones, then how can they get whatever tax, services or money to be collected? If only they can collect the money, they can pay the salaries and maintain the services. Therefore, a serious situation has come up. It may be very light to say that it is because of insurgency problem. We have insurgency problem

today. Yesterday, our Law Minister also made a statement while replying to a debate on poto that terrorists and mafia have become technology savvy. They carry wireless phones and satellite phones. They do all the communications through them. They have the best weapons. Now, why are the Government of India and the Ministry of Defence denying the use of cellular phone in the north-East people.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (NAGALAND): Sir, it is a very serious matter. I am not talking for myself or my State. I am talking for the entire North-East which consists of eight States and even Jammu and Kashmir. One of the Members have made a statement that even PCOs have been shut down. Then how are the people going to live? This is the only source of communication. In the North-East, there is no proper communication. Only through this cellular phones or through this WILL system which is provided to the people, they contact doctors and officers in the districts. This is the only way to communicate with each other. Only because some officer in the South Block is influenced by the business houses, they say that due to security reason, there should be no cellular phones or WILL in the North-East. This is very surprising. I would request the Government of India to view this very seriously and take it up so that before the damage is done to the nation, it can be avoided. The entire North-East is considered as a very sensitive region. If these people think that the Government of India is not paying attention to them and not giving them facilities, then I am afraid, we will have to pay very heavily for this.

I would conclude by saying that the Government of India should view this seriously and tell the Ministry of Defence about this. The Defence Minister should also take note of the officer who has done this and put him behind the bar.

श्री ब्रह्मानन्द मंडल (मुंगेर) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं। वर्ा 2002-2003 का जो सामान्य बजट है इसके संबंध में तीन बिन्दुओं पर मैं जोर देना चाहता हूं। पहले तो मैं इस बजट का समर्थन करता हूं। समर्थन इसलिए करता हूं कि इस बजट में देश के अंदर जो लघु उद्योग हैं, उनको ऋण देने की सीमा 2 लाख से 5 लाख रुपए तक बढ़ाई गई है। इससे रोजगार का सृजन होगा। इसलिए मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में आ वास योजना में 13 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि की गई है जिसमें 1725 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई है। इसलिए भी मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं। पर्यटक उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 50 फीसदी की वृद्धि की गई है और इस हेतु 255 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई है। इसलिए मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूं। विद्युत के क्षेत्र में 1500 करोड़ रुपए से बढ़ाकर 3500 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई है। इसलिए भी मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूं।

महोदय, ग्रामीण विकास के लिए 5 हजार करोड़ रुपए से बढ़ाकर 7 हजार 5 सौ करोड़ रुपए किए गए हैं। इसलिए भी मैं इस बजट का समर्थन करता हूं। ग्रामीण ि वद्युतीकरण के लिए 164 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई है। इसलिए भी मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं। कृषि में बजटीय प्रावधान बढ़ाया गया है। इसलिए मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं और रक्षा के क्षेत्र में 65 हजार करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था क गई है। इसलिए भी मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं। सड़कों, राट्रीय राजमार्गों और रेलों के क्षेत्र में क्रमशः 22, 39 और 23 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि गत वर्ा की तुलना में अधिक की गई है। इसलिए मैं इस बजट का समर्थन करता हूं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्ति करना चाहता हूं और परिवहन के क्षेत्र में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर हेतु जो पैसा बढ़ाया गया है, रेल और सड़क परि वहन, राट्रीय राजमार्गों की जो व्यवस्था की गई है उसके लिए मैं उनकी सराहना करता हूं, लेकिन मैं उनको याद दिलाना चाहता हूं कि बिहार के सभी सांसद जब प्र धान मंत्री जी से मिले थे और एक विशेा पैकेज दिया गया था, उस पैकेज में बिहार के मुंगेर में गंगा नदी पर रेल सहित सड़क पुल निर्माण के लिए कहा गया था और प्रधान मंत्री ने इसके लिए आश्वासन दिया था कि यह काम किया जाएगा, लेकिन बाद में रेल मंत्रालय के निगम "राइट्स" ने इसका जो सर्वे किया, उसके अनुसार उसने 921 करोड़ रुपए की लागत आने की बात कही है। आप यह भी जानते होंगे कि रेल मंत्रालय ने 1997-98 में 600 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की थी, लेकिन परि वहन मंत्रालय को भी उसके लिए धन आबंटित करना है क्योंकि वह रेल एवं सड़क दोनों का पुल बनेगा। योजना आयोग ने पहले ही इसे वार्कि योजना में लेने का वायदा किया था और उसने लिया भी। इसलिए राट्रीय राजमार्ग के अंतर्गत परिवहन मंत्रालय को भी इस हेतु अपना हिस्सा देना है। इसलिए मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि राट्रीय राजमार्ग यानी परिवहन मंत्रालय का कहना है कि इस बार का जो उनका बजट है वह केवल 1500 करोड़ रुपए का है इसलिए उन्हें इस हेतु धन आबंटित करने में बहुत परेशानी हो रही है।

मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूं कि जो सड़क का, जो राट्रीय राजमार्ग का हिस्सा बनने वाला है, उसकी लागत लगभग 375 करोड़ रुपये की है। हर वर्ा 40 या 45 करोड़ रुपये ही इन्हें देने पड़ेंगे। पहले इन्हें उसकी स्वीकृति देनी चाहिए। उसके बाद 375 करोड़ रुपये इनको एक साथ नहीं देने हैं। एक वर्ा में 40 या 45 करोड़ रुपये ही देने हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि जब आप अपना उत्तर दें तो इसकी चर्चा जरूर करें कि वे क्या करना चाहते हैं।

वित्त मंत्री जी को मैं याद दिलाना चाहता हूं कि बिहार के सांसदों की एक बैठक एनेक्सी में हुई थी। उस समय आप भी थे। उसमें कहा गया था कि पटना के पुल का उद्घाटन प्रधान मंत्री जी करने वाले हैं। उसकी सारी प्रक्रिया पूरी हो चुकी है। उसका शिलान्यास भी हो गया है। अब बिहार में मुंगेर पर गंगा का एक पुल बचा हुआ है। आपने कहा था कि मुंगेर में भी बनेगा और उसके लिए भी धन दिया जायेगा लेकिन उसमें परेशानी क्या है ? परेशानी बिहार सरकार की है। जब बिहार की चर्चा होती है तो हमारे बिहार के जो साथी हैं, उनको हम कहना चाहते हैं, योजना आयोग और वित्त मंत्री जी से भी मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जिसे अभी तक बिहार की नौंवी और दसवीं योजना में शामिल किया जाना चाहिए था, इसकी घोाणा बिहार सरकार ने भी की थी। जब प्रधान मंत्री जी गये थे तो वहां की मुख्यमंत्री ने आम सभा में घोाणा की थी कि मुंगेर का पुल बनना चाहिए । लेकिन रघुवंश बाबू और कुछ अन्य माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं और मुझे भी पता है कि अभी तक आपकी नौं वी और दसवीं योजना में राज्य सरकार के प्लान में यह नहीं आया है। â€¦ (व्यवधान) यही है बिहार की काय संस्कृति ।

मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि आपका लिखित प्रस्ताव भी केन्द्र सरकार को नहीं आया है। कुछ तकनीकी समस्याएं हैं जो खड़ी हो गई हैं। हम केन्द्र सरकार से कहना चाहते हैं कि चूंकि योजना आयोग ने आश्वासन दिया था कि इसका प्रपोजल बनाने का काम हमारा होगा, मेरा कहना है कि केन्द्र सरकार बिहार सरकार से इसका प्रपोजल ले। इसके संबंध में मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि पूरे देश के अंदर जो इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर बढ़ाया जा रहा है, मुंगेर का ब्रिज है, सिर्फ मुंगेर का नहीं है, सिर्फ बिहार का भी नहीं है बल्कि पूरे देश को आर्थिक गति देने वाला है, इसलिए इसमें धन केन्द्र सरकार से मिलना चाहिए। बिहार सरकार की भी अपनी परेशानी है लेकिन वहां का जो हाल है, उसे सब जानते हैं। वहां कितना काम होता है। â€¦ (व्यवधान)

डॉ. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह (वैशाली) : राज्य सरकार ने रुपया दिया है। â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्री ब्रह्मानन्द मंडल : 56 लाख रुपये का प्रश्न है। हम उसकी भी चर्चा कर देते हैं। 56 लाख रुपया सर्वे का राईट्स को देना था लेकिन वह राईट्स को नहीं मिला है, रेलवे को पैसे नहीं मिले हैं। आपको आश्चर्य होगा कि बिहार में काम का क्या तरीका है ? बिहार में चूंकि रघुवंश जी बोल देते हैं इसलिए जवाब देना पड़ता है। मै सत्य से परे नहीं बोल रहा हूं। मुंगेर में डिवीजन है राट्रीय राजमार्ग डिवीजन । 56 लाख रुपये मुंगेर डिवीजन को भेज दिया गया था जो आपको राईट्स को देना था, रेलवे को देना था। आपका जो हिस्सा था, वह आपने मुंगेर डिवीजन में क्यों भेज दिया। पथ निर्माण के जो सैक्रेट्री हैं, उनसे हमारी बातचीत हुई है।

â€¦ (व्यवधान) मैं आप ही को सम्बोधित करके बोल रहा हूं।।

दूसरा बिंदु मैं उठाना चाहता हूं, कि इस बजट में एक चिंता का विाय है। कुछ परेशानी की बात है। यूरिया, डी.ए.पी. और सब खाद्यों पदार्थों पर 5 परसेंट की वृद्धि की गई है। जो किसानों पर भार है। 20 रुपये आपने एल.पी.जी. गैस के वापिस ले लिये, इसका मैं स्वागत करता हूं।

हमारे देश की 35 फीसदी आबादी खेत मजदूर है। देश में आज भी खेत में काम करने वाले मजदूरों के यहां बिजली नहीं पहुंची है, वे मिट्टी का तेल इस्तेमाल करते हैं। आपने मिट्टी के तेल का भाव एक रुपये पचास पैसे प्रति लीटर बढ़ा दिया जो एक परेशानी है। इसे वापिस लिया जाए। पैट्रोल के दाम घटाए गए हैं, उसे वैसे ही रहने दीजिए। पैट्रोल और डीजल के दाम घटाने की क्या जरूरत है। हम वित्त मंत्री जी से निवेदन करेंगे कि वे इस बारे में विचार करें। भारत के 35 फीसदी सबसे गरीब तबके की पॉकेट पर मार मत कीजिए, उसे राहत दीजिए।

बजट में जो अंतिम बात है, वह सैद्धान्तिक भी है और व्यावहारिक भी है। चाहे इधर के लोग हों चाहे उधर के हों, हम उन्हें इस बारे में विचार करने के लिए कहेंगे। सोमैया जी ने चर्चा की, बड़े-बड़े विद्वानों ने भी चर्चा की। यहां उदारीकरण, भूमंडलीकरण, डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. की चर्चा होती है। पूंजी बाजार में मंदी की वजह से इस देश में जो परेशानी है, आप मेहनतकश लोगों के कंधों पर यह भार डालकर मंदी को दूर करना चाहते हैं - क्या यह संभव है? यह संभव नहीं है। पूंजी बाजार क्या है, इस पर बहस होनी चाहिए। बजट में इसका उत्तर नहीं है। मेरी अपनी समझ है। यहां कई अर्थशास्त्री मौजूद हैं। मैं अर्थशास्त्र का विद्यार्थी नहीं रहा हूं लेकिन बहुत से सदस्य होंगे। हमने सोमैया जी का भाण सुना। â€¦ (व्यवधान) कांग्रेस के भाई कहते हैं कि यह जो हो रहा है, उनके जमाने में नहीं हुआ था। इसके लिए कौन दोाी है। जब श्री नरसिंह राव की सरकार थी, उस समय मैं भी था। उस समय सुधार की जो प्रक्रिया चली थी, वह लगातार बहुत तेजी से चली। इसलिए कांग्रेस के भाइयों को कुछ कहने का हक नहीं है। मैं इतना कहना चाहूंगा कि हम सबको मिलकर इस बारे में विचार करना चाहिए। पूंजी का बाजार, जिसे हम विनिवेश के क्षेत्र में देख रहे हैं, बैंकों का निजीकरण, उद्योग और व्यापार, कुछ मुट्ठीभर लोगों के हाथों में धन केन्द्रित होना, जब उसकी यहां बात होती है तो लोग कहते हैं कि जमाना इसी का है। जिस रास्ते पर अमरीका जा रहा है, हिन्दुस्तान को भी उसी रास्ते पर जाना चाहिए। आप अमरीका के रास्ते पर चले जाएंगे, क्या हिन्दुस्तान अमरीका है?â€¦ (व्यवधान) सैद्धान्तिक रूप से कहा जाता है कि बैंकों की पूंजी, उद्योग और व्यापार की पूंजी, जब एक होती है तो उसे वित्तीय पूंजी कहा जाता है और जब वित्तीय पूंजी होती है तो पूंजी का सम्राज्य मुट्ठीभर लोगों के हाथ में होता है और वह खूंखार हो जाता है। यह अमरीका के लिए सही हो सकता है क्येंकि उसने वाशिंगटन और न्यूयार्क में मौजूद अर्थव्यवस्था को वैज्ञानिक तरीके से इस्तेमाल किया है और उसे बढ़ाने का काम किया। इसलिए पूरी दुनिया को उसने बाजार बनाया। लेकिन जिस देश में 35 फीसदी खेत मजदूरों को रोजी-रोटी नहीं मिलती, मिट्टी का तेल मिलना मुश्किल हो जाता है, जिस देश के 70 फीसदी लोग गांवों में रहते हैं, किसान हैं, जो अभी भी आधुनिक टेक्नोलौजी का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पाते, बैलो और हलों का इस्तेमाल हो रहा है, आप उस देश में वित्तीय पूंजी को पूंजी साम्राज्य में बदलना चाहते हैं।

मैं एक दो उदाहरण देकर समाप्त कर रहा हूं, इसलिए कि ये सवाल उठ गये हैं। यह बहस जब शुरू हो गई है तो चाहे कांग्रेस के बन्धु ही हों, चाहे इधर से हम लोग हों, इस पर बहस हो जानी चाहिए। अर्थशास्त्रियों द्वारा विचार करके कह दिया जाता है कि उदारवाद है तो क्या उदारवाद है। कहने का अर्थ आप नहीं समझते हैं। लेकिन मेरा यह कहना है कि आप इसको किस तरह से चलाएंगे, नियंत्रित करेंगे कि नहीं करेंगे और करेंगे तो कौन सी नीति इसके लिए होगी। यह बननी चाहिए कि नहीं बननी चाहिए, इसका मैं एक उदाहरण दूंगा। वित्त मंत्री जी यहां नहीं हैं। आर्थिक समीक्षा अखबारों में निकलती रहती है। आपको आयकर से और सेल्स टैक्स से 1लाख 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये आने थे, आपको मिला कितना, इधर कुछ बढ़ा हो तो बढ़ा हो, लेकिन दो महीने पहले की जो रिपोर्ट है, उसके मुताबिक 40 हजार करोड़ रुपया आपके पास आया, 70 हजार करोड़ रुपया किसके पास है, खेत मजदूरों के पास है, किसानों के पास है, नौजवानों के पास है, छात्रों के पास है, यह 70 हजार करोड़ रुपया पर ईयर प्रति वा जो कालाधन होता है, यह किसके पास है और इस कालेधन को निकालने की जिम्मेदारी किसकी है? अगर यह कालाधन निकल जाता है, तब आप जो समस्या खड़ी करते हैं, वह कम हो सकती है?

मैं सार्वजनिक बैंकों की पूंजी के बारे में कह सकता हूं, जो सार्वजनिक पूंजी है, वह कितनी है, कुल पूंजी कितनी है, जिस समय राट्रीयकृत की गई है, जो मुझे मालूम हैâ€¦ (व्यवधान) अब मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूं, आप बहुत परेशान हैं, मैं जानता हूं, लेकिन मैं उदाहरण दे रहा हूं, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूं।

MR. CHAIRMAN : You keep on saying that you would conclude, but you are not concluding. There are two more speakers and we have to accommodate both of them before 9.00 p.m. So, please conclude soon.

श्री ब्रह्मानन्द मंडल : नौ हजार करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी सार्वजनिक बैंकों की थी। जिस समय इनको राट्रीयकृत किया गया था, तब उनकी कुल पूंजी इतनी थी। आज 9.60 लाख करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी है, जिसमें मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि जो अनक्लेम्ड कैपीटल है, मतलब जो मर गये, समाप्त हो गये, उनका कोई नहीं है, न उनका परिवार है, न कोई क्लेम करने वाला है। सिर्फ उनकी पूंजी 3.10 लाख करोड़ रुपये इन बैंकों में है। प्रमोद महाजन जी, संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी बुरा नहीं मानेंगे, हो क्या रहा है कि फर्जी कम्पनियां खड़ी हो रही हैं और वे इन पैसों को निकाल रहे हैं और निजी क्षेत्र में नई-नई चीजें खुलती जा रही हैं, जिसको हम उदार वाद कहते हैं, जिसको हम भूमंडलीकरण कहते हैं, जिसको हम कहते हैं कि कानून की पद्धति पर हमें चलना है। अमेरिका इस पर कभी नहीं चलता। â€¦ (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to listen to the Chair. This is not the way. I cannot keep on ringing the bell. Please conclude now.

श्री ब्रह्मानन्द मंडल : अब बस मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूं। मैं वित्त मंत्री से और संसदीय कार्य मंत्री श्री प्रमोद महाजन जी से सिर्फ इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आप जरूर इस पर थोड़ा विचार करें कि भारत को उस रास्ते पर जाने से आप कितना इसको मजबूत और पूरे विश्व में एक नई आर्थिक व्यवस्था कैसे आप कायम कर सकते हैं, आप पुरानी व्यवस्था की तरफ लौट रहे हैं, नई व्यवस्था की ओर आप नहीं जा रहे हैं।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना भाण समाप्त करता हूं।

कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह (महाराजगंज, उ.प्र.) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूं कि आपने सामान्य बजट पर हो रही चर्चा में मुझे भाग लेने की अनुमति प्र ादान की।

देश की 55 वां की आजादी के बाद भी आज हिन्दुस्तान की बहुसंख्यक आबादी बुनियादी सुविधाओं के लिए तड़प रही है। आज जो यह बजट सदन के पटल पर चर्चा के लिए लाया गया है, इस बजट को देखने के पश्चात यह बात स्पट तौर पर परिलक्षित हो रही है कि आर्थिक उदारीकरण की जिस नीति को इस देश में लागू किया गया था, उस आर्थिक उदारीकरण के दुपरिणाम आज देश के सामने उभरकर सामने आ रहे हैं। जिस समय वित्त मंत्री जी इस बजट को अन्तिम रूप दे रहे हैं।

उस समय निश्चित ही अंतर्राट्रीय मुद्रा कोा, विश्व व्यापार संगठन और विश्व बैंक का दबाव उनके ऊमर था। उसकी प्रतिछाया इस सामान्य बजट के अंदर स्पट तौर पर रेखांकित हो रही है। इस देश में बहुसंख्यक आबादी किसानों और मजदूरों की है, जो पूरे देश का लगभग 70 प्रतिशत है। आज कृाि जगत को जिस मरणासन्न स्थिति में इस बजट के माध्यम से पहुंचाया गया है, उसकी जितनी निंदा हम करें, कम है। जब एक तरफ यह कहा जा रहा है कि विश्व बाजार में मंदी का दौर है, तो हमें इस बात पर गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार करना चाहिए और देखना चाहिए कि विश्व व्यापार में जो मंदी का दौर है, उसमें हम किसान को विश्व बाजार की प्रतिस्पर्धा में ले जाने केलिए कैसे ताकत प्रदान करेंगे। अगर हम मंदी के दौर में कीमतों में वृद्धि करके किसानों को ताकत देने की बात सोच रहे हैं तो हम कहीं न कहीं अपने को और देश को धोखा देने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। आज जो विश्व बाजार की स्थिति है और प्रतिस्पर्धा है, उसमें हमें किसानों को ले जाने केलिए उसके लागत मूल्य को घटाना होगा, उत्पादन को बढ़ाना होगा और गुणवत्ता में बढ़ोत्तरी करनी होगी, तभी हम विश्व बाजार की चुनौतियों का सामना कर सकते हैं। अगर हमने इन तीन चीजों पर बल नहीं दिया, तो किसान फिर आत्महत्याएं करता रहेगा और उसकी आत्महत्या के पश्चात हम इसी सदन के अंदर घड़ियाली आंसू बहाकर अपने कर्त्तव्य की इतिश्री करते रहेंगे।

आज दुनिया में अधिकतर देशों की तरफ आंख उठाकर देखें तो पता लगता है कि अमेरिका से लेकर यूरोपियन कंट्रीज किसानों को कृाि पर अत्यधिक छूट दे रही हैं। जितनी कृाि राजकोाीय सहायता अमेरिका और यूरोपीयन राट्र तथा जापान दे रहे हैं, हम उतनी ही घटाते जा रहे हैं। उससे हमारे उत्पादन की लागत बढ़े रही है और पैदावार पर भी प्रतिकूल असर पड़ रहा है। इसलिए हम यह चाहते हैं कि अगर किसान को आप ताकत प्रदान करना चाहते हैं, जैसा आपने आज कहा कि हम समर्थन मूल्य प्रणाली को खत्म करेंगे और खुले बाजार में प्रतिस्पर्धा में किसान को ले जाएंगे, हम आपके इस कदम का स्वागत करेंगे, लेकिन हम कहना चाहते हैं कि यह स्थिति लागू करने के पहले आपको लागत मूल्य को घटाना होगा। आपने पहले मिट्टी के तेल के दाम में बेतहाशा वृद्धि की थी। इस बजट में फिर डेढ़ रुपए प्रति लिटर की वृद्धि कर दी है। आज भी देश में गरीब व्यक्ति को बिजली की सुविधा प्राप्त नहीं है और आपने मिट्टी के तेल में जो वृद्धि की है वह उसके साथ क्रूर मजाक किया है। आप देश के सुदूरवर्ती क्षेत्र में चले जाएं, उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार और उड़ीसा जैसे राज्यों में देखें, वहां जनजातीय क्षेत्रों में लोगों को बिजली की सुविधा प्राप्त नहीं है। वे गरीब मिट्टी के तेल की लालटेन या डिबरी जलाकर अपने बच्चे को पढ़ाते हैं और अपना जीवनयापन करते हैं। आपने डीजल के दाम में कमी की है, उसका हम स्वागत करते हैं। निश्चित ही डीजल के दाम घटने से किसान के लागत मूल्य पर असर पड़ेगा, लेकिन अच्छा होता अगर आप पेट्रोल के दाम में वृद्धि करते और मिट्टी के तेल के दाम कम करते। यह गरीबों के लिए लाभदायक होता।

आज देश के सामने सबसे बड़ी समस्या बढ़ती हुई जनसंख्या है। अगर हम इसे नियंत्रति नहीं करेंगे तो दुनिया से जोचुनौतियां हमें मिल रही हैं, हम उसका मुकाबला नहीं कर पाएंगे। हम सरकार को बधाई देना चाहते हैं कि पिछले वर्ा उसने छः वर्ा से लेकर 14 वर्ा तक के लड़कों को मुफ्त शिक्षा देने सम्बन्धी विधेयक पारित कराया। लेकिन उस पर आप सिर्फ 900 करोड़ रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं। युद्ध पर हजारों करोड़ रुपए खर्च करेंगे और शिक्षा पर केवल 900 करोड़ रुपए। यही आपकी सोच है तो मैं साफ शब्दों में कहना चाहता हूं कि आप नए समाज और नए देश का निर्माण नहीं कर सकते। अगर समाज के सभी वर्गों को शिक्षा दे दी जाए और उनके अंदर सुरक्षा की भावना पैदा कर दी जाए, स्वास्थ्य की गारंटी दे दी जाए, तो मैं दावे से कह सकता हूं कि हम देश की बढ़ती जनसंख्या को नियंत्रित कर सकते हैं। अपने ही देश में केरल एक राज्य है। नई जनगणना की जो रिपोर्ट आई है, उसके अनुसार केरल ने .7 प्रतिशत जनसंख्या घटाने का काम किया है। अगर उसके मूल कारण में जाएं, तो हम पाएंगे कि केरल ने सभी को शिक्षित करने का काम किया है।

साक्षर नहीं शिक्षित करने का काम किया। जब धर्म पर बहस कराने के लिए हमारे बीजेपी के कुछ मित्र जनसंख्या के नियंत्रण के लिए धर्म को आड़े लाने का काम करेंगे तो हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि आज इस प्रगतिशील युग में हमें प्रगतिशील विचारों को स्वीकार करना पड़ेगा। आज कैथोलिक, इस्लाम और सनातन में लगभग संतुलित आबादी में केरल के अंदर तीनों धर्मों के मानने वाले लोगों ने अपनी जनसंख्या को नियंत्रित करने का काम किया है। धर्म जनसंख्या को नियंत्रित करने में बाधा नहीं है लेकिन गरीबी और अशिक्षा बाधा है। अगर गरीबी और अशिक्षा को हम दूर कर देंगे, सुरक्षा की गारंटी पैदा कर देंगे तो निश्चित तौर पर जनसंख्या को नियंत्रित करने में हमें सफलता मिलेगी और जब हम जनसंख्या को नियंत्रित कर लेंगे तो तमाम बुनियादी सुविधाओं की आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति हम आम जनता के लिए करने का काम करेंगे।

इसी के साथ मैं कहना चाहता हूं और बड़ी विनम्रता पूर्वक कहना चाहता हूं कि आज बाढ़ और प्राकृतिक आपदाओं से हमारे किसानों के घर तबाह हो रहे हैं, उनकी जिंदगी बर्बाद हो रही है। हमारे देश को 55 साल आजादी प्राप्त किये हो गये हैं, उसके बाद भी हमारी खेती प्रकृति पर निर्भर है। आज भी हम दैवी आपदाओं की मार को झेलने के लिए बाध्य हैं। दैवी आपदाओं से सुरक्षा की कोई गारंटी हमने नहीं दी।

किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड का बहुत लम्बा-चौड़ा वर्णन हमारे बीजेपी के साथियों ने किया। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड के माध्यम से आप किसान को कर्जा ही देते हैं लेकिन जरा देखो कि क्या उसकी माली हालत उस कर्जे के ब्याज को अदा करने की है? अगर आप वास्तविक रूप से किसान की स्थिति को देखेंगे तो मैं साफ शब्दों में कहना चाहता हूं कि इस किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड के माध्यम से जो उसे कर्ज प्राप्त हो रहा है, उस कर्ज के ब्याज की अदायगी की भी ताकत आज के किसान में नहीं है।

महानगरों के अंदर जो आलीशान भवन हैं, ये आयकर की व्यवस्था को चुनौती देने का काम कर रहे हैं। यह बजट अभिजात्य वर्ग का बजट बनकर रह गया है। आज जितने भी महानगर हैं, उनमें ऊंची-ऊंची जो अट्टालिकाएं हैं, वे इसी बात को चुनौती दे रही हैं कि हमारा जो एनफोर्समेंट विभाग है, जो आयकर विभाग है, यह केवल राजनैतिक दबाव के अंदर काम करने का कार्य करता है। राजनैतिक प्रभाव के अंदर निर्णय लेने का काम करता है। अगर हमने उन आलीशान भवनों पर सही तरीके से काम किया तो मैं अनुभव के आधार पर कह सकता हूं कि करोड़ों हजार रुपये का टैक्स अदा कर सकते हैं। आज देश के अंदर जो विदेशी वस्तुओं का खुला बाजार है, वह इस बात की तरफ संकेत कर रहा है कि जो कस्टम विभाग है, वह कहीं न कहीं भ्रटाचार में लिप्त है। हमारा कस्टम विभाग खुले तौर पर तस्करी को आमंत्रित करने का काम कर रहा है। आज कस्टम विभाग की भूमिका पर भी प्रश्नवाचक चिन्ह लगा हुआ है। वित्त मंत्री जी को इस पर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए और विनम्रता के साथ कहना चाहता हूं कि आज विदेशी पूंजी निवेश के लिए वित्त मंत्री जी बहु राट्रीय कंपनियों को आमंत्रित करते चले जा रहे हैं। ये विदेशी बहु-राट्रीय कंपनियां मुनाफा कमाने के इरादे से इस देश के अंदर आ रही हैं, वे हमारे देश की भलाई के लिए नहीं आ रही हैं, वे हमारी तरक्की के लिए नहीं आ रही हैं। हमारे जितने भी अप्रवासी भारतीय हैं, अगर उन भारतीय अप्रवासियों को हम विश्वास में ले लें तो मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जिस तरह से चीन ने अपने एनआरआईज का पैसा बड़े पैमाने पर इंवेस्ट कराने का काम किया और वहां के एनआरआईज ने वहां इस भाव से पूंजी निवेश नहीं किया क्योंकि उन्हें इस देश से मुनाफा कमाकर किसी दूसरे देश में ले जाना है तो उस चीन के निवासियों ने अपने देश के प्रति राट्रीय भक्ति से ओत-प्रोत होकर जब वहां की सरकार ने उन्हें संरक्षण प्रदान किया तो उन्होंने विदेशी पूंजी निवेश अपने देश मे करने का काम किया।

आज विश्व व्यापार संगठन के दवाब के कारण हमारा उद्योग जगत और कृाि जगत दोनों मरणासन्न स्थित में पहुंच चुके हैं। हम विनम्रता पूर्वक कहना चाहते हैं कि विश्व व्यापार संगठन के सम्मेलनों में जब बड़ी लम्बी-चौड़ी बातें होती हैं तो वित्त मंत्री जी, यह सरकार क्यों नहीं कहती है कि व्यक्तियों के आवागमन पर से भी लगा हुआ प्रतिबंध हटा दो, पूरी दुनिया को एक कर दो । अगर हमारा भारतीय नौजवान दुनिया के विभिन्न हिस्सों मे जाकर अगर प्रगति के नये-नये कीर्तिमान स्थापित नहीं कर देगा तो मैं आपसे दावे के साथ कहना चाहता हूं कि हम राजनीति के मैदान से हटकर सन्यास लेने का काम करेंगे। जब विश्व व्यापार संगठन नयी-नयी शर्तों को थोपने का काम करता है और हमारी सरकार अन्तर्राट्रीय मुद्राकोा, विश्व बैंक और अमरीका के दबाव के अंदर शर्तों को एक-एक करके स्वीकार करती चली जाती है तो हम निश्चित तौर पर अपने देश के भविय के साथ खिलवाड़ करने का काम करते हैं।

21.00 hrs.

आज हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि निर्माण कार्यों में जो लूट हो रही है, उन निर्माण कार्यों की लूट पर आपको अंकुश लगाना होगा। आज नेताओं, अभियन्ताओं और ठेकेदारों का त्रिगुट माफिया पूरे देश में खड़ा हो गया है, जो पूरी व्यवस्था को अपने कब्जे में लिए हुए हैं। मैं वित्त् मंत्री जी से आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूं, आप जितनी योजनाओं को लागू करने का काम कर रहे हैं, उनके कार्यान्वयन पर भी आप नजर रखिए कि उनका कार्यान्वयन किस तरह से हो रहा है। मैं आपको प्रधान मंत्री सड़क योजना से संबंधित एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। राज्य सरकारों से आपके पास एस्टीमेंट आए हैं। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश का हवाला देना चाहता हूं। उत्तर प्रदेश में 18 लाख से 22 लाख प्रति किलोमीटर खर्च एस्टीमेट में दर्शाने का काम किया है। मैं बड़ी ईमानदारी के साथ कहना चाहता हूं कि उनकी उसी गुणवत्ता के आधार पर पांच से छः लाख प्रति किलोमीटर की बचत अगर न हो, तो मैं अपने संसद सदस्य के पद से इस्तीफा देने का काम करूंगा। एक जिले में आपने 15 करोड़ से 20 करोड़ रुपए प्रधान मंत्री सड़क योजना की मद में भेजा होगा, तो उसमें से कम से कम दो करोड़ रुपए की बचत आप कर सकते हैं। इस प्रकार निर्माण कार्यों में लूट हो रही है। गुणवत्ता का ह्रास होता चला जा रहा है। यदि इस पर आप अंकुश लगा लें, तो विकास दर को आप आगे बढ़ा सकते हैं।

श्रीमती रेनु कुमारी (खगड़िया) : बिहार में भी यही हो रहा है।

कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह : मुझे जिस क्षेत्र का अनुभव है, मैं वहां की बात कह रहा हूं।

दूसरी बात, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि देश आर्थिक संकट की स्थिति से गुजर रहा है। आपको आय और खर्च में समन्वय स्थापित करना होगा। फिजूलखर्ची पर रोक लगानी होगी। अभी हमारे शिव सेना के एक मित्र ने एक बात कही, मैं नहीं जानता वे किस मंत्री के पी.ए. का उन्होंने उल्लेख किया, उस मंत्री के पी.ए. की गाड़ी पर 11 लाख रुपए खर्च हुए और यह खर्च भी सिर्फ दो-तीन महीने में हुए हैं। यह फिजूलखर्ची सिर्फ मंत्री के पी.ए. तक ही सीमित नहीं है। आप 42 से 46 हजार कर्मचारियों को वीआरएस के लिए बाध्य कर रहे हैं। अधिकारियों के इतने बड़े बेड़े पर आप अरबों रुपए फूंकने का काम कर रहे हैं, मेरा विचार है कि फिजूलखर्ची पर रोक लगाकर उसपर रोक लगाने का काम करें। फिजूलखर्ची से इस रुपए को बचाकर यदि आप निवेश उत्पादक मदों में करेंगे, तो निश्चित ही तौर पर इस देश की आर्थिक स्थिति को सुदृढ़ करने का काम करेंगे।

अब मैं चीनी मिलों के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। आप चीनी मिलों की हालत पर नजर रखिए। पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश की 20 चीनी मिलें बन्द पड़ी हैं। भारत सरकार के नियन्त्रण में मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र फरेन्दा की एक चीनी मिल, जो कपड़ा मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत आती है, बन्द पड़ी हुई है। इसके लिए मैं आपको दोा नहीं देता हूं। पहले इनकी भी सरकारें रही हैं और बीच में हमारी भी सरकार रही है। उस चीनी मिल को चलाने के लिए कुछ लोगों ने भारत सरकार के कपड़ा मंत्रालय को एक आवेदन पत्र दिया है कि हम कर्मचारियों की छंटनी नहीं करेंगे और हम इस चीनी मिल को चलाना चाहते हैं। लेकिन भारत सरकार के कपड़ा मंत्रालय की ओर से एनओसी नहीं दिया जा रहा है। हम आपसे कहना चाहते हैं कि चीनी मिलें हमारे पूर्वजों द्वारा तैयार की गई थीं, जो पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की समृद्धि की निशानी थीं, वे चीनी मिलें आज बन्द पड़ी है। मेरा सुझाव है कि आप फिजूलखर्ची में से रुपया बचाकर इन बन्द चीनी मिल के पुनर्निमाण के लिए धन आबंटित करें, तो लाखों लोगों को रोजगार देने का काम करेंगे, लाखों किसानों के भविय को सुरक्षित करने का काम करेंगे।

महोदय, हाल ही में आपने चुनावों में अपने चुनाव घोाणा पत्र में वायदा किया था, संकल्प लिया था कि एक करोड़ नौजवानों को रोजगार देंगे। लेकिन बजट का अध्ययन करने से पता लगता है कि आपका वह संकल्प कहीं भी पूरा होता दिखाई नहीं दे रहा है। बेरोजगारों को रोजगार देने का जो आपने संकल्प लिया था, वह संकल्प अधूरा दिखाई दे रहा है। मेरा आपसे विनम्र निवेदन है कि बेरोजगारों को रोजगार प्रदान करने के लिए इस बजट में व्यवस्था करने का काम करें। हम आपसे बड़ी विनम्रता के साथ कहना चाहते हैं कि किसानों की माली हालत को सुधारने का काम आपने नहीं किया, अगर किसानों की आर्थिक स्थिति में बदलाव लाने का काम आपने नहीं किया और किसानों की फसल को सुरक्षा आपने प्रदान नहीं की, किसानों को आपने सही तरीके से बाजार उपलब्ध नहीं कराया, किसानों के लिए नई ताकत पैदा नहीं की, तो मैं आपसे साफ शब्दों में कहना चाहता हूं कि सौ करोड़ के मुल्क में अराजकता पैदा होगी और यह अराजकता देश को खण्ड-खण्ड में िवखण्डित करने का काम करेगी। इसलिए मैं आपसे विनम्रता पूर्वक आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि आप अपने बजट में संशोधन करें और किसानों के लागत मूल्य को घटाने तथा उत्पादन मूल्य को बढ़ाने के लिए व गुणवत्ता को बढ़ाने के लिए नए सिरे से विचार करें।

अंत में, इन्ही शब्दों के साथ, जब तक आप यह विचार नहीं करते हैं, मैं आपके इस बजट का विरोध करता हूं।

21.05 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Wednesday, March, 20, 2002/Phalguna 29, 1923 (Saka).